

4 Japanese Ships Sunk, 10 Damaged in Attack By American Air Force

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tempt Sunday on Admiral Mitscher's force. This added 53 enemy craft to the previous estimate 300 destroyed.

Two U. S. carriers and one battleship suffered "superficial damage" and 21 aircraft were lost in combat. A fleet spokesman said superficial damage means the ship's capacity for battle was not impaired, indicating these three probably participated in Monday's action.

The attack of the Fifth fleet under command of Adm. Raymond A. Spruance was such a complete surprise that the Japanese apparently made no counter-attack against any of our surface units.

Third Costly Wallop

This destruction or damaging of 14 ships was the third greatest single blow dealt the Japanese battle fleet of the war.

The greatest was the battle of Midway in June, 1942, when another carrier force under Admiral Spruance sank four enemy carriers and near a score of other ships.

The second biggest defeat was Nov. 13-15, 1942, in the battle off Guadalcanal, when the enemy lost more than 30 ships sunk and damaged.

The battle summary for Sunday's and Monday's action shows conclusively why Admiral Nimitz in a Monday press conference stated he hoped the enemy would close with the United States fleet for a decisive naval action.

On Sunday Japanese planes attacked Admiral Spruance's Fifth fleet. They achieved no surprise. They lost 353 planes—335 to our fighters and eighteen to our ship's anti-aircraft. They inflicted only superficial damage on only three of our ships.

Japs Taken By Surprise

Admiral Mitscher's carrier force pursued the Japanese. On Monday afternoon it located the Japanese and attacked. There was time for just one assault before nightfall. But in just those two or three hours of daylight his bombers and torpedo planes sank or damaged 14 enemy ships.

They destroyed 15 or 20 Japanese planes which rose in weak defense of the enemy's great force.

And Mitscher's force achieved such surprise that the enemy was not able to counter-attack.

Admiral Mitscher had one advantage Monday. He caught the Japanese with their planes down—down in the ocean.

This enemy fleet which Mitscher riddled Monday now has been fairly well established as the one which attacked our force Sunday. Loss of 353 planes from its five or six carriers virtually wiped out its planes so that it had to rely largely on anti-aircraft for defense—a defense which proved pretty futile.

The fact that only 20 Japanese planes were downed Monday further indicates the enemy had

very few aircraft to offer resistance.

Our loss of 49 aircraft does not necessarily mean anywhere near that total was lost to enemy action.

Downed Airmen Saved

Because the battle was late in the day and at nearly extreme range in order to catch the Japanese, all of our planes were not able to return to their carriers. Many of these 49 landed in the water and the crews took to rubber life rafts.

Some of these already have been picked up and others undoubtedly were rescued after dawn Tuesday although reports are incomplete.

The Hyataka carrier sunk in the Philippines sea was at least the eighth Japanese flat-top sent to the bottom. In addition to four at Midway, the Japanese lost two in the battle of the Coral sea and one to a submarine.

The carrier Zulkaku is listed in Jane's fighting ships as displacing 20,000 tons and carrying 60 aircraft, mounting 12 five-inch anti-aircraft guns. Her speed is over 30 knots, her length more than 800 feet.

The Hayataka class carriers are listed as "rumored to exist." Jane's suggested that this class may be converted merchant vessels.

The Kongo class battleships are four in number, each having a normal complement of 980 men. They are armed with eight 14-inch guns with 14 mile ranges; 16 six-inch guns, eight five-inch anti-aircraft guns, other lesser armament and 21-inch torpedo tubes. One of them, the Haruna, was the battleship attacked by the Capt. Collin Kelly off the Philippines in the opening days of the war.

Rocket Bomb Launching Sites Hammered Anew

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half of the trip, the announcement added.

Keeping the assault going on the Germans' still active rocket bomb launching bases in the Pas-de-Calais area of France, RAF Lancasters and Halifaxes followed American Liberators and bombers over that region yesterday evening and delivered what was officially described as a "devastating" blow at the German installations there.

Forty-six bombers were missing from the widespread British operations, which included mine laying in enemy waters.

The German radio warned today that allied planes were over Styria—perhaps indicating that American bombers from Italy were out.

Berlin Raid War's Biggest The daylight raid against Berlin by a fleet of more than 1,000 U. S. Flying Fortresses and Liberators and 1,200 escorting fighters was the greatest of the war against the Reich capital.

While German flying bombs continued droning through English skies overnight, the mounting weight of bombs dropped on the Pas-de-Calais area indicated the allies were making progress in their campaign against the launching mechanisms for these projectiles.

From an allied advance command post came word that American troops swarming up the Cherbourg peninsula—where it was stated more than a quarter

of the rocket bomb bases were situated—had seized a number of sites. Supreme headquarters said, however, that there was no evidence that rocket bombs had been launched from the Cherbourg peninsula.

East of the battle area bombing was concentrated on the disrupted and choked railway and highway network over which the Germans are striving to push reinforcement. Over an area of several hundred square miles British and American fighter-bombers battered bridges, railroad yards, trucks, trains, barges and oil tanks at 20 different places. Air bases at St. Quentin and Reux also were hit.

Opening of the new Britain to Russia shuttle route brought with it the prospect of still greater raids against Germany.

Degrees to Be Conferred At Odd Fellows' Meet

Candidates will be present for degrees at the meeting of Philatonic lodge No. 8, I. O. O. F., at 8 o'clock tonight, officers report. Members are urged to attend and assist in the degree work.

Truckers Reminded of New Gas Rationing Need

Truck owners, operating vehicles under certificates of war necessity, should immediately make application for renewal of quarterly rations, L. V. Hammock, chairman of the Roseburg OPA board, stated today. The new quarterly rations will be issued after July 1 and, as considerable time will be necessary to process all applications, filings should be made as early as possible in order to prevent congestion and delay in getting out the new gasoline allowances. Truck owners who fail to make application prior to Aug. 1 will have their certificates revoked and will be forced to make new applications.

Knockout Assault On Cherbourg Is Launched

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made the demand on his own authority.

A German communiqué today announced the death of Lt. Gen. Heilmich in the fighting on Cherbourg peninsula.

(The German radio began pre-

paring the Nazi home front for the loss of the port, speaking on how long it could hold out against overwhelming attacks.)

The Germans still were rushing to destroy everything in the port and city which could be of use to the allies.

Reports here said that Cherbourg's airfield appeared to be within allied grasp if not already taken. This would be the first sizable field captured in the beachhead drive and, when repaired, would permit the use of medium bombers.

Baptist Group Will Attend Summer Meeting

Rev. Harold E. Oppertshauser and a group of Baptist young people will leave Monday, June 26, to attend the Baptist summer assembly at Lake of the Woods. The conference will continue for one week.

GRESHAM, Ore., June 20—(AP)—Gresham's city hall lawn was cut and clean today.

Four boys, convicted of violating a city ordinance by smoking in a theatre, were sentenced to a stretch with the lawn mower.

Homemade Bait Controls Berry Root Weevils

As supplies of commercially prepared strawberry root weevil baits have been exhausted in many localities in Oregon, a successful home-mixed bait is advocated by Robert Rieder, extension entomologist and plant pathologist. Rieder says this seems to be a particularly bad year for weevil damage in Oregon.

The bait formula is bran, 50 pounds; water, 5 gallons; sugar, 10 pounds (or stock molasses used with less water); sodium fluosilicate or calcium arsenate, 5 pounds. The sodium fluosilicate is slightly preferred if obtainable. County agents can give more detailed directions on preparation and use of this bait.

Sutherlin Plans to Increase Water Supply

Immediate steps to increase the water supply for the Sutherlin community were urged at a meeting of the newly-formed Sutherlin chamber of commerce Wednesday evening. The business meeting was held following a din-

ner at the Sutherlin hotel dining room, where 29 members of the organization were in attendance. Committees were formed to direct various activities in which the chamber of commerce will engage.

Chief interest centered around the discussion of the water supply, which, because of rapidly increasing population and demand

for industrial use, is becoming critically short.

An engineer has been employed to prepare plans and estimates for the proposed improvement. Federal aid in completing the project will be sought.

Seven new members were accepted into the chamber of commerce, making a total of 42 now affiliated with the organization.

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