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ROSEBURG, OREGON, THURSDAY, JULY 26, 1945

45-173

Leniency Appeal Comes From Japan While Merciless Assaults Continue

Easier Terms Would Halt War Now, Tokyo Radio Broadcasts; Empire Being Reduced to Ruin

(By the Associated Press)

Tokyo pleaded for leniency today under the merciless poundings of allied naval guns and planes which are rapidly knocking out Japan's air, sea and coastal defenses.

Twenty Japanese warships and 82 other surface craft were knocked out in a single day's air raids by combined U. S.-British carrier forces, presumably still roaming Japanese waters.

Today a sky fleet of more than 350 Superfortresses dropped more than 2,200 tons of fire bombs today on three industrial cities scattered over three home islands of Japan.

The new raid followed announcement by the 20th air force that devastation in Japan's urban industrial areas had reached 143 square miles in 39 cities.

Today's targets of Superforts' bombs were:

Omura, one of the empire's most important chemical centers on the southernmost island of Kyushu.

Matsuyama, important port city on the western shores of the neighboring island of Shikoku.

Tokuyama, another chemical center as well as refining city on the main home island of Honshu.

"Good to excellent" results were reported from Wednesday mid-night's attack by 100 Superforts on oil targets near Tokyo. They hit three oil plants at Kawasaki, 30 miles south of the enemy capital. They met intense anti-aircraft fire, but lost only one plane. There was no aerial interception.

Incessant aerial pounding will reduce Japan to "a nation without cities—a nomadic people," Lt. Gen. Doolittle promised from his

Staggering Japan Seeking Leniency

Easing of Unconditional Surrender Edict Seen as Peace Feeler Objective

(Editor's note: James D. White has been studying the Japanese military mind since he covered the beginning of the war in China 8 years ago. He was a technical prisoner in Shanghai after Pearl Harbor until repatriated in August, 1942.)

By JAMES D. WHITE

SAN FRANCISCO, July 26.—(AP)—Japan, backed against the ropes in a fight she started some time back, today spoke of quitting the war as a definite possibility.

This is the central fact which observers are able to pick out of the Tokyo radio's startling broadcast today, urging the United States to take a more lenient attitude about this business of peace.

The appeal was carefully hedged about with qualifications which fitted it neatly into Tokyo's usual propaganda line. Nevertheless, it gave the impression that Japan would be definitely interested in peace if only the unconditional surrender formula could be softened.

The broadcast came on the heels of the most disastrous two

White House Directive Calls Halt on Legislative Jaunts Abroad at U. S. Govt. Expense

WASHINGTON, July 26.—(AP)—Unexpected word from the White House put a crimp today in the traveling plans of some European-bound congressmen.

It seems they will have to foot their own transportation bills unless their trips were authorized specifically by resolution.

Speaker Sam Rayburn acknowledged that he had received a letter to this effect from one of President Truman's aides.

As a result, an 11-man group that took off in an Army plane last Friday apparently is out on somewhat of a limb. Another batch of legislators reportedly intends to abandon plans for a look-around in Europe.

Rayburn said he didn't know if the White House directive had caused any representatives to change their plans. But he added that it meant no Army or Navy funds will be used to transport congress abroad.

Those going with committees authorized by resolution will have their way paid out of congressional contingent funds; others will have to dig into their own pockets.

An earlier understanding was that service planes would furnish free rides for any committees okayed by Rayburn, provided space was available. It was on this basis that the 11-man group took off last Friday.

One minute after they roared away for Europe, the Middle East and the Scandinavian countries, according to Capitol reports, the White House directive was handed down. Their self-styled "fact-finding" mission was not authorized by resolution.

Crushing of Japs In Single Smash Plan, Devers Says

WASHINGTON, July 26.—(AP)—

Gen. Jacob L. Devers, new chief of army ground forces, said today the plan is to mass a force for a single crushing blow against Japan, adding "there's no use doing it piecemeal."

Appearing at a news conference with Acting Secretary of War Patterson, Devers said that "we hope to get these 7,000,000 (the approximate total of the army after partial demobilization) redeployed against the Japs in a single blow."

He explained that he did not mean the whole 7,000,000 could be used "on one small island" but that they would be needed here in this country, in the pipeline of supply that feeds the forces on the Pacific front, and elsewhere.

The big job now, he said, is to get the men who have been on furloughs back to camp and put them in re-training for the Pacific war. Along with them must be trained men who are coming into the army for the first time and who will go into the reorganized outfits bound for the Pacific. The men will be given a minimum of eight weeks' re-training, he said.

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SEEKS OUSTER — John Locke Green, above, county treasurer in Alexandria, Va., a republican, has asked the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals to declare the Senate seat of 87-year-old Carter Glass of Virginia vacant by ordering an election to fill the position. Green alleges Glass has not answered Senate roll call in more than three years and is "permanently incapacitated" by illness.

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Russia Seeks Huge Aid Fund; Chances Poor

WASHINGTON, July 26.—(AP)—

Russia's request for \$70,000,000 worth of UNRRA aid met a mixed reception in congress today.

Simultaneously, but without reference to the Russian appeal, an UNRRA official said the agency's funds are running low and that nations participating in its relief and rehabilitation operations might be asked to increase their contributions.

These now are fixed at one per cent of their national income for one year.

The Soviet government's initial application for help was disclosed by Roy F. Hendrickson, UNRRA deputy director, who said the request would be screened, as are those from other nations, to determine Russia's ability to import goods and pay for them.

Senate Comment Mixed

Members of the senate foreign relations committee declined comment, but Senator Taft said:

"I am very much afraid they won't get that much. I don't think UNRRA is going to operate on such a large scale."

"We (the United States) are down for only \$1,350,000,000 and I don't think we've put in more than 75 per cent so far (UNRRA said \$800,000). I don't think anybody else has put in anything very much." (Hendrickson disputed this, saying nine nations have authorized their full one per cent.)

Senator Tamm commented: "Of course, UNRRA is an international organization and it

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