

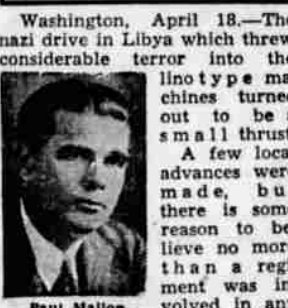
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Thirty-seventh Year. MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 1942. NO. 24.

U.S. PLANES BOMB HEART OF JAPAN

News Behind The News
By Paul Mallon



Washington, April 18.—The nazi drive in Libya which threw considerable tempo into the line of the Axis, has been turned out to be a small thrust. A few local advances were made, but there is some reason to believe no more than a regiment was involved in any of the skirmishes. No large amount of tanks took part on either side. Thus the expected great drive to Alexandria turned out to be a foray.

That raises the question what is Hitler waiting for? Sandstorms have already started in that area. He has only a few weeks left before the heat will keep his army prone.

If he is able to go at all, he should have been on his way long before this. He has been throwing everything he has handy in the way of bombing at Malta, and if he can obliterate that obstacle, he can push whatever supplies of men and material he has across the desert to General Rommel's inert right arm. But he and everybody else knows the clock is running out there.

THERE is more excuse for his failure to develop the long advertised spring offensive in Russia. Thaws have started in the north now. No one can move much around that front for a few weeks.

The weather has not been good in the south either, so he can blame his sluggishness on the weather there also.

But if he has anything he had better show it soon, he will

(Continued on Page Nine)

JAPANESE CENTER AT TULE LAKE TO STARTS TOMORROW

San Francisco, April 18.—(P) Construction will begin tomorrow on a 1,500-acre reception center to accommodate 10,000 Japanese on the Tule lake reclamation project in northern California, Lieut. Gen. J. L. De Witt, commanding general of the western defense command and fourth army, announced tonight.

"Army engineers will direct the construction project, the site is in Siskiyou county, just south of the Oregon state line."

"The project," General De Witt said, "will be rushed to completion and should be ready for occupancy within 30 days. Following completion of the reception center the area will be turned over to and operated by the war relocation authority which will develop some 6,500 additional acres for use of northern California and southern Oregon Japanese."

WINNING WAR IS FIRST GOP DESIRE

Chicago, April 18.—(P) Chairman Joseph W. Martin of the republican national committee asserted today his party would "rather win the war, win it quickly, than win an election," and declared candidates in the 1942 campaign would advocate the most vigorous prosecution of the war.

Martin told reporters the committee undoubtedly would issue a statement on its war position at a meeting here Monday and added:

"I don't think any great party could meet now without offering some stimulus to a vigorous prosecution of the war. Certainly our party wouldn't."

Tokyo, 3 Great Industrial Cities Targets in War's Most Daring Air Attack

Tokyo (from Japanese broadcasts), April 18.—(P)—The great cities of Japan—Tokyo, Yokohama, Kobe and Nagoya—were bombed for the first time in history today, imperial headquarters announced, by planes which bore the bright insignia of the United States air forces.

Thus the very heart of the Japanese empire, its capital, two principal ports and the center of its aircraft production, were attacked in what may prove the most daring and spectacular air exploit of the war thus far when the rest of the story is told.

It came less than 24 hours after Secretary of War Stimson in Washington said the American army was "getting pretty near to the stage of being ready for an offensive."

Tokyo In Dark

Tokyo could not say whence the raiders came. Chungking said they did not come from China.

But the official report that Tokyo was attacked first, half an hour after noon, and Kobe, 378 miles to the west, two hours later, suggests an east-to-west sweep.

Such an operation could have been carried out by a naval task force built around one or more aircraft carriers approaching Japan from the northeast, where the heavy April fogs might hide their approach. Long-range bombers from the Aleutians, some 2,500 miles from Tokyo, might conceivably have cooperated with carrier-borne craft. Flights from hidden bases in the Philippines or China also are possibilities.

There were an undisclosed number of casualties, headquarters for the defense of east Japan announcing that "we express to the next of kin of persons killed our condolences." This account, like other official accounts, said damage was light.

Incendiary Bombs Fall

Incendiary bombs fell in the Tokyo-Yokohama area, Nagoya and Kobe but fires were reported quickly controlled.

This suggests, however, that the raiders carried to the crowded industrial centers the type of fire bombs on cities which for the most part are built of wood.

The high command announced that nine attacking planes were shot down over the Tokyo-Yokohama district, suggesting the raiding force totaled several times that number.

The greater part of the Japanese homeland was under air raid alarm for varying periods during the afternoon, from the northern tip of Hokkaido to Shikoku and western Honshu, a sweep of some 1,000 miles embracing three of the four main islands. Even the fourth, Shikoku, in the southwest, was given "precautionary warnings."

Nine Planes Lost
Military communiques and official broadcasts gave this picture:

Tokyo—the capital, third city of the world, population, 7,000,000; military, political, financial heart of the empire:

"It has been confirmed thus far that nine enemy planes were shot down when hostile aircraft attacked the Tokyo-Yokohama region this afternoon for the first time since the war began," read an announcement by eastern defense headquarters.

"The enemy planes approached from several directions about 12:30 p. m. and were immediately repulsed by air and ground defenses. It is revealed that damages inflicted by the air attack are slight."

Follow Axis Pattern
Domel elaborated:

"The raiders failed to penetrate into the heart of the metropolitan area, but dropped their bombs in residential districts in the suburbs. Schools and hospitals unfortunately received several hits."

(But Tokyo's suburbs contain huge industrial plants as well as residences—airplane plants, arsenals, munitions factories, huge military depots and can-

"Smacked 'Em"



Lieut. Col. J. H. Davies (above) of Oakland, Calif., who led U. S. army B25 bombers from Australia against Jap bases in the Philippines, said on his return to Australia: "We smacked hell out of 'em and gained at least a little revenge for members of our squadron who fought in the front trenches in Bataan." He was awarded the distinguished flying cross for the achievement.

CAPITAL ELATED, WHILE MUM UPON DETAILS OF RAID

Washington, April 18.—(AP)—Word that American planes had finally slashed at the great cities of Japan exhilarated and excited this capital today and was hailed by members of congress as the harbinger of a vast offensive that ultimately will crumble the Mikado's empire.

It was balm for the wounds of Pearl Harbor and Bataan that the war had been carried in direct and punishing fashion to the Japanese people. In combination with this week's air raids on Japanese bases in the Philippines it cheered a country, which, contrary to its traditions, had been fighting a defensive war.

Officials at the war and navy departments were wearing broad smiles but saying nothing. Presumably no announcement will be made until the operation is completed, planes are back at their bases or carriers, and official reports have been received.

At the capitol, Senator Hill (D-Ala.) echoed a popular statement when he said:

"This is just a beginning; it's hardly a token compared with what we're going to give them."

"That's the way we're going to win the war," said Senator Clark (D-Ida.), "bombing them right at home."

"There was a possibility of reprisal raids," Clark said, but added, "if we have sufficient aircraft on the Pacific coast, enemy bombers can be knocked down as they come in."

Senator Holman (R-Ore.) expressed gratification at news of the bombing of Japanese cities, remarking that the "best defense is an efficient offense."

Alarms in Osaka

These areas do contain many farming villages but they also are thick with factories producing war goods.

The great cities of Osaka (3,600,000) and Kyoto (1,200,000) were under air raid alarm during much of the afternoon with all the rest of the highly industrialized, densely populated district within 100 miles radius of Osaka which, however, apparently was not bombed.

For the main cities, including Tokyo, the alarm ended at 3:50 p. m., three hours 20 minutes after the first planes appeared over Tokyo.

Also under alarm was the entire island of Hokkaido, northernmost of the main islands, and Shikoku, just south of Honshu, the principal island; all the northeast coast of Honshu above Tokyo; all the Tokaido coastal district between Tokyo and Osaka; western Honshu as far as Ok-yana, 100 miles west of Osaka.

Domel gave this account of Tokyo under air attack for the first time in its history:

"In the downtown districts of Ginza and Marunouchi (the Fifth avenue shopping district and Wall street financial center of Tokyo, respectively) business flowed on as usual with buses, trolleys and other vehicles running without interruption."

"While Japanese air defenses smashed down the invaders' lunch hour crowds unharmed finished their meals and returned to their offices satisfied that the defense forces were doing their work well."

"Children peered into the sky for hostile craft. The people remained calm and unruffled. Unperturbed housewives and civil defense units closed windows and checked anti-raid equipment with the same cool efficiency shown in practice."

CITY PLAYGROUND WILL BE SITE OF RECREATION BLDG.

Bear Creek Area Approved By F.S.A. Will Be Leased From City.

Medford's new \$93,000 recreational building, made possible with funds allotted by the Federal Works Administration, will be constructed on the Bear Creek playgrounds area just south of the Main street 'Bear Creek bridge under present plans, it was stated yesterday by Don T. Orput of Portland, field recreation representative for the Federal Security Agency.

Mr. Orput said the area had been fully approved by the F.S.A., and that unless a better site was offered by the city the building, to be used by Camp White soldiers for worship and recreational activities, would be built there.

The area, to be leased from the city at \$1 a year for a period not to exceed 10 years, embraces about 300 feet along the east bank of Bear Creek running south from the bridge, by 150 feet wide, according to Fred W. Scheffel, city superintendent.

The area to be utilized by the recreational building, a standard "type A" structure with wings, does not include the side of the present Boy Scout and Girl Scout headquarters at the northeast corner of the property, Mr. Scheffel explained. These headquarters will not be affected by the new building, he said.

The project will be constructed by the Federal Works Agency through the office of the Regional Engineer, Region 7, Seattle, Washington, and is to be operated, according to tentative plans, by the Y. W. C. A. Fred T. Evans, acting regional engineer of the F.W.A., is expected to announce shortly the date for the start of construction of the project.

NORMANDIE AGAIN RAKED BY FLAMES

New York, Sunday, April 19.—(P)—Fire that started in supplies salvagers were removing raged through a lower hold of the former French liner Normandie last night, but did no damage to the vessel's structure, it was said at 9:25 p. m. (PWT) today—nearly three hours after the blaze was brought under control.

War Bulletins

Bern, Switzerland, April 18 (AP)—Premier Mussolini, discharging fascist party secretaries in several towns and cities today, called the prefects of all Italian provinces to Rome April 18 for a conference on new means of enforcing discipline required by war.

London, April 18.—(AP)—Reports reaching London said tonight that Field Marshal Gen. Wilhelm Ritter von Leeb, Nazi commander on the Leningrad front, has been relieved of his post. His successor was said to be Col. Gen. Georg von Kuechlen, who commanded one wing of the German drive through Belgium in the spring of 1940.

Rome, (from Italian Broadcasts), April 18.—(AP)—An Italian destroyer has sunk a submarine in the central Mediterranean, the Italian high command announced today.

On the Libya front, heavy sandstorms were reported to have hindered patrol activity in the Cirenaica war sectors.

Chungking, April 18.—(AP)—The main Chinese forces on the Sittang front in central Burma have withdrawn to a new line after many days of a powerful offensive by overwhelming Japanese forces. The Chinese command announced tonight.

AMERICAN FORCE WILL SEE ACTION WITH COMMANDOS

Gen. Marshall Says Air Bases Will Be Established All Over Britain.

With the U. S. Army in Northern Ireland, April 18.—(P)—Gen. George C. Marshall, chief of staff of the United States army, declaring "the time for action is near" said today that American troops "inevitably will join the commandos," the British shock force which has been raiding the German-held continent.

Further forecasting offensive action, he told a press conference that United States air forces will be established in bases "all over the British isle."

Here for a flying inspection of the United States contingents already in Ulster, General Marshall said he had conferred at length in London with Lord Louis Mountbatten, chief of the British commandos, as well as with Prime Minister Winston Churchill and other British service chiefs.

He pointed out that the U. S. army has long trained an entire army corps in land cooperation such as the recent British dash to St. Nazaire, Nazi submarine base on the occupied Brittany coast, and against other important Nazi coastal installations in both France and Norway.

General Marshall flew here Friday with two of President Roosevelt's closest advisers, Harry Hopkins and W. Averell Harriman, after 10 days of "the most intimate and satisfactory" discussions with the British leaders.

He made a speedy inspection tour and review of the bulk of the United States troops here and then told officers that these men are but the first of a "steady flow."

The first U. S. troops of this war arrived in Ulster in mid-January; a second contingent followed in about a month.

Gen. Marshall told the unit commanders that he was "very much impressed with the apparent state of discipline and the evidence of strenuous training" of the American forces.

LAVAL WILL TAKE PETAIN'S ORDERS

Vichy, Unoccupied France, April 18.—(P)—Pierre Laval, France's No. 1 campaigner for all-out collaboration with Germany, reorganized the French government on a pro-axis basis today, but agreed to submit to the final authority of Marshal Petain, still chief of state.

Laval won the marshal's approval, necessary under the constitution, of a 21-man government, 13 of whom have been active supporters of the pro-German policy for France. He split the civil and military divisions of government, abolished the national defense ministry and kept three important posts for himself—foreign affairs, interior and information.

The aged marshal, by special decree, delegated to Laval the power to control France's domestic and foreign policies but simultaneously placed his heir apparent and former vice premier, Admiral Jean Darlan, in complete command of all land, sea and air forces, responsible only to the chief of state.

CENTRAL PT. PAIR MARRIED IN RENO

Reno, April 18.—(P)—Marriage licenses issued here included: Arden Pinkham, 24, and Elizabeth Hamilton, 19, both Central Point; Adrian Wigley, 23, Central Point, and Nellis Moon, 23, Port Orford.

Interpreting The War News

By Kirke L. Simpson
(Wide World War Analyst)

American bombing of Tokyo, Yokohama and other Japanese cities raises a question as to whether the planes involved were carrier-based or struck from land bases on the northern tip of Luzon.

Until that question is answered in official statements from Washington the full meaning cannot be clear.

If four-engined bombers made up the attacking groups, that would indicate that they came from land bases, presumably of the Philippines. That is possible, however, that if bombers of such size were involved, they came from land bases, not from airplane carriers.

Assuming that the planes were carrier-based, it would mean that a powerful naval task force had penetrated to within 600 miles or less of the Japanese coastline. Supporting ships such as cruisers and destroyers to protect the carrier or carriers would be essential in that case.

It would put a strong American naval and air unit perilously close to Japanese China sea communication lines, the most vulnerable sector of the whole Japanese war front.

If that be the case, Tokyo's war lords may have cause to reappraise their strategy in sending powerful Japanese fleet units from home waters to the Indian ocean.

By the recent account of Prime Minister Winston Churchill to parliament, the Japanese have at least three battleships, five plane carriers and many light craft in the Bay of Bengal. That represents virtually half of her known carriers and perhaps a third of her battleship strength.

Aside from its boost to morale in the united nations, the bombing attack might serve the strategic purpose of leading Tokyo to recall a part of that force nearer home, thus easing the threat to India.

There can be no doubt, in any event, that Japan is destined to feel the force of American air power increasingly from now on.

CORREGIDOR GUNS SILENCE ENEMIES SHORE BATTERIES

Washington, April 18.—(P)—Corregidor's sharp shooting guns encouraged hopes of a prolonged defense of the Philippine stronghold today by blasting into silence additional batteries of enemy siege guns.

As a result of the effective counter-blasts, the war department said, Japanese bombing and shelling of the island fortress at the entrance to Manila bay showed "somewhat decreased intensity."

Reporting on the situation elsewhere in the islands, Lieutenant General Jonathan Wainwright advised that Cebu, the Philippines' second city, was in enemy hands and was burning.

Fierce fighting continued in the vicinity of the city which is more than 300 miles south of Corregidor in the central portion of the Philippine archipelago. On the island of Panay, where an invasion force landed Thursday from a fleet of eight transports supported by warships, the Japanese likewise were still meeting determined resistance from the defenders.

The war department's announcement that the Corregidor guns had silenced several enemy batteries, all on Bataan, followed an official report on Friday that three enemy batteries had been put out of action in the past 24 hours. These batteries were on Bataan and in Cavite, on the south shore of Manila bay.

In addition, the guns of Corregidor and the three outlying Manila bay forts blasted roads and bridges in Bataan, disrupting enemy communications.

Sacramento, April 18.—(P)—Churning cream butterfat; First grade 42½; second grade 40½.

AXIS FEELS AIR POWER OF ALLIES; RUSSIANS AIDED

Destruction Rained On Germany And Rangoon—Washington Silent On Attack—Disasters Hinted

By Richard McMurray
Associated Press War Editor

Tokyo and three other great Japanese cities shuddered yesterday (Sat.) from the destructive crash of United States bombs in what may well have been the start of an offensive to destroy the very heart of the spraddled Nipponese war machine.

Other huge and lethal American planes rained destruction on Rangoon in Burma and Rabaul at Australia's outer fringe where Japan's ambitious vanguards are based.

In Europe, the RAF continued its ceaseless attacks against vital German war plants in the over-run continent.

The British blows in effect had opened a second front against Germany, already locked in a death struggle with Russia, whose armies were reported crushing the last spark from puppetized Finland, and nearing the major German Ukraine base of Dnepropetrovsk.

Lone Bright Spot

The lone bright spot in the picture for Japan was the continued success of her army in Burma, which applied relentless pressure to the awing British lines, pushed now into the flaming ruins of the Yenangyang oil fields.

But all these developments were far overshadowed by the daring assaults on Tokyo, the plane-producing center of Nagoya, and the major industrial port of Yokohama and Kobe.

All the accounts came from Tokyo and her Berlin ally, and the frequency and variance of the stories suggested that great damage had been done and that people of the tightly packed islands were hysterical.

The very fact that the Japanese radios shouted officially that "the imperial family is safe" suggested a major disaster, because only at times of great emergency are such assurances given.

The lack of flamboyant claims

—expected from an axis government—about destruction of any great percentage of the raiders suggested a vital weakness in the Japanese home defenses, and that the island air forces had been spread exceedingly thin to support Japan's far-flung conquests of Burma, China, the Philippines, Netherlands East Indies and Malaya.

It was reasonable to expect that Japan would call on her German partner for a face-saving reprisal attack on United States cities. German bombers in France are within striking distance of the eastern U. S. seaboard, and some of the Nazi long-range planes could make nuisance raids.

Freedom Spurred

The blow against Japan was a great fillip to the freedom-loving world. It also brought home in grim reality the horrors of total war which Japan for nearly five years has carried mercilessly to China and other peoples of the Pacific. It was partial payment for the treachery of Pearl Harbor and a promise of more to come.

The real story may be withheld for days until the planes or carriers are safely back at their bases.

The ascendancy of Laval, of course, was a blow to the United Nations but old Marshal Petain retained final authority over the acts of the whitened Nazi collaborator. The Vichy government, from which the United States ordered its ambassador home to "consult," was formed on a pro-axis basis, with Laval holding the portfolios of foreign affairs, interior and information.

LAST RITES

Corvallis, April 18.—(P)—Funeral services for Solon T. White, who died suddenly at Spokane last night, will be held here Tuesday afternoon.