

HITLER'S NEXT BLOW MAY BE AID FOR JAPS

By DeWITT MacKENZIE
Wide World War Analyst

The Japs continue to trail in their race to beat time before reinforcements can arrive to take a hand in the battle of the Pacific, nothing of a decisive nature having yet occurred in any of the several strategic zones where the Nipponese are attacking—and that is good news at this stage.

However, a little item from the distant Russian front today reminds us forcibly that Hitler undoubtedly is preparing to strike again in some other direction, and that his fresh blow will be calculated to divert as many allied resources from the Far East as possible. An Associated Press correspondent after a three-day tour of the Moscow front reports that there have been no signs of the nazi air force. That is ominous.

Any Hitlerian offensive which will put an added strain on allied air and naval forces will be a godsend for the Japs. This is especially true of the aerial arm, because the Oriental battle at the moment is turning on control of the air.

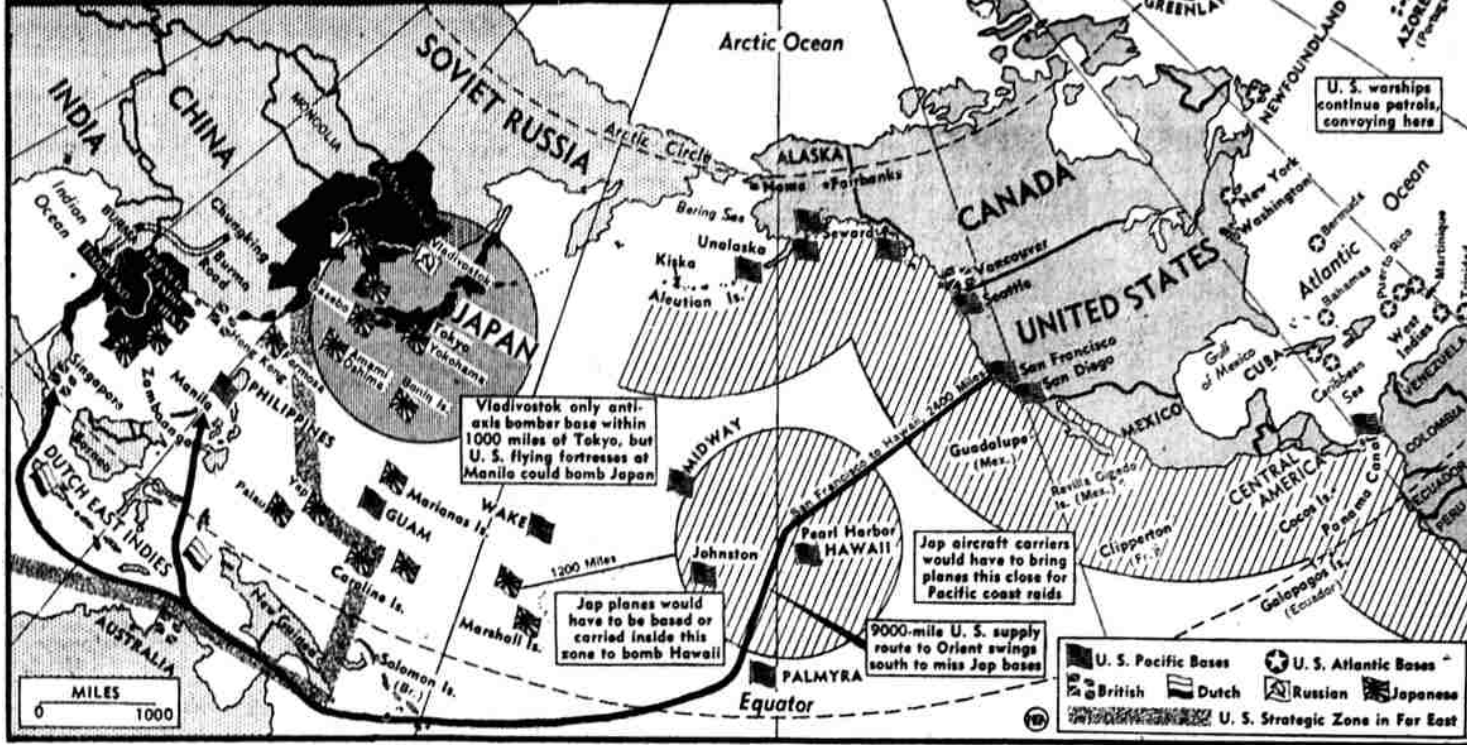
So important is this question of air control that a newspaper editor has asked this column to comment on it, on the basis that "it does seem that the first phase of the war will be determined in the air." Rear Admiral Harry E. Yarnell, former commander of the Asiatic fleet, goes even further and declares the United States will win the war of the Pacific through air control.

Certainly air power is a vital factor in the battles now raging about the Philippines, Singapore, Hongkong and lesser air bases. Air reinforcements or lack of them—especially fighter planes to fend off attacking bombers—may spell the difference between victory and defeat.

Probably the question most often in the public mind relates to our chances of bombing Japanese cities. Remember Pearl Harbor! Interest undoubtedly has been stimulated by the knowledge that the dropping of incendiaries on the filmily built towns of the island empire would be likely to produce a holocaust.

That is one reason why Russia's attitude toward Japan at

U. S. WAR FRONT—AZORES TO ZAMBOANGA



From the Azores in the Atlantic to Zamboanga in the Philippines, both American role in the conflict is being and probably will continue to be ways around the world, extends the U. S. front in World War II. Major played in the vast theater of oceans and hemispheres mapped above.

this juncture of the crisis is highly important. The bolshevists have a large air force at Vladivostok only about 600 miles away from Nippon.

I should say that right now our chief striking power must come from aircraft carriers. We have no bases near enough to the Japanese mainland to enable us to do much practical bombing, employing the long distance bombers commonly in use by America and Britain. These ships can fly some 3000 miles without heavy load, but obviously their serviceable bombing radius is considerably less than half that distance because allowance must be made for adverse winds, maneuvering and the return trip home.

Now if you will glance at your far eastern maps you will see that our available bases are outside the battle radius of such machines, so far as concerns Japan proper. We could get at Formosa from Manila—and that would be exceedingly valuable, for Formosa is a strong base—or we could reach the Japs in Hainan or French Indo-China, Tokyo or the other great cities of Nippon are too far away.

Of course, you will remind me that the newspapers long have been discussing bombers which are said to do much more than

3000 miles. Also it's true that private fliers, Guiley stated, are marked with NC and a number on the lower side of the planes. The private fliers will be in the air during the daytime. Only in a most unusual and unexpected case, he said, will any private fliers here be up at night.

New Year's Dance Stated at Reames

Members of Reames Golf and Country club will have their annual New Year's eve dance in the clubhouse on December 31. It was announced this week. Mr. and Mrs. Ted Shoop will serve as chairmen. Members of their committee will be announced this weekend.

A college band from the University of Oregon at Eugene has been engaged for the evening, it was stated.

There are only 12 letters in the Hawaiian alphabet.

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Private flying will be resumed from the municipal airport immediately, following reinstatement of private licenses suspended when war broke out, according to Max Guiley, manager of the Klamath Air service.

Guiley asked that the public be fully informed that private fliers will be in the air in order to prevent any confusion or belief they are enemy aviators.

The local fliers, he said, have been reinstated without difficulty following the routine suspension.

All of the local planes used by

private fliers, Guiley stated, are marked with NC and a number on the lower side of the planes. The private fliers will be in the air during the daytime. Only in a most unusual and unexpected case, he said, will any private fliers here be up at night.

RATIONING OF TIRES STARTS ON JANUARY 7

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18 (AP)—The government prepared machinery today for its first wartime step into over-the-counter rationing, aimed at conserving crude rubber by barring sales of automobile tires for non-essential use.

Civilian rationing boards in every community—developed from state and local defense councils—will decide which individuals are entitled to ration cards. The system is to become effective Jan. 4.

Acknowledging the possibility of more rationing in the future, Civilian Supply Director Leon Henderson said the rationing

boards could become the framework for controlling the distribution of other civilian articles.

Henderson said warfairs in the Pacific, cutting off rubber imports, necessitated an 80 per cent reduction in crude rubber processing and curtailment of civilian consumption from 47,000 tons monthly to 10,000 tons.

Every new passenger car made will get four tires, but will have no spare or one made of reclaimed rubber, Henderson told a press conference yesterday. Manufacture of new passenger tires will be eliminated almost entirely for the present.

Planes of the present, such as the new airliners with four 1100 horsepower engines, can carry 32 passengers and crew, as well as a ton of mail at a speed of 250 miles an hour.

According to a recent survey, approximately 30 per cent of air travelers in the United States are women.

Since their pectoral flying fins are not developed until they are grown, flying fish cannot "fly" until then.

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