

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RC04938





## 南方かな土か

与物作步中瞻回的 三洋十む大る ら物派が下院を一人で同当の一と野云に対は一人、なり、というない。これでは一人、歌の般に一一方る勝云百 一般によりない。 ニャー る不は事よふ勝 ま事方にうし上るしますの回りを男もい。はに本れて陸戦にラ上や苦南知殿はの 人を飲た既で隊しり内突闘戦でたででからい。大きないの内突闘戦でたるででから、大きな心情如のの居者あ無





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## WHICH IS IMPORTANT, JAPAN OR THE SOUTH?

It is an elementary principle of strategy that many victories do not necessarily win a war (1).

Even a child of three (2) knows that at Okehazama initial victories were followed by decisive defeat. (3)

Repeatedly we have pointed out to all of you that your hard fighting in the South is useless. It will not decide the course of the war, nor will it profit Japan to any extent.

Americans made surprise landings on Tarawa and three other islands in the Gilbert Group. These islands are only 400 kilometres south of Jaluit in the Japanese Mandated Islands.

This bold and irresistible operation was carried out by a large force with a nucleus of battleships and aircraft carriers. It was preceded by two days' bombing and shelling of the islands. The first air raid on the Marshalls has already been reported.

Step by step, the real theatre of war is shifting in the direction of the homeland. The main thrust is outflanking the South.

The stupidity of your toiling and fighting in the confined backwater of the South needs little further demonstration.

- (1) This maxim is derived from Sung Tze's teachings, which are known in Japan. He said that a hundred battles and a hundred victories do not mean that final success in war has been achieved. It is always the last battle that wins the war.
- (2) Idiom.
- (3) The meaning of this sentence is understood by all Japanese. It refers to a well-known battle at Okehazama in Owari where in 1560 Oda Nobunaga, later Shogun, by detour defeated his opponent despite the latter's initial victories.
- (4) Japanese date 21st.