

5-16-3.

南太平洋週報

東京通信

「決戦期正月の種々相」

門松など日本の古式で
 はな、い、古事記、萬葉に門
 松や櫻は無、い、ではな、い
 かと燭り立つ迄もなく、
 國策上木炭に木造船に
 一、枝、一、葉、たりとも粗末
 に、致、す、事、罷、り、成、ら、ぬ、と
 中々、厳、しい、が、それ、でも
 當、局、の、肝、煎、で、豆、で、
 數、々、よ、ろ、昆、布、の、重、詰、を、
 始、め、お、煮、染、の、野、菜、類、な
 ど、世、五、種、の、正、月、用、食、品
 が、曲、り、成、り、に、も、揃、た、の
 で、六、大、都、市、に、於、て、も、千

「年頭兩演説と急進派」

東條首相の試みた年頭
 の辞に「大東亞」といふ言
 葉も「共栄」と云ふ言葉も
 なく「世界共栄」と言、た、大
 きく出、た、様、で、実、は、大、東
 亞、戦、根、本、の、意、氣、た、る、大
 東、亞、ブ、ロ、ク、の、イ、デ、イ、オ、
 ギ、ー、を、放、棄、し、た、事、に、つ
 い、て、松、井、末、次、の、兩、大、將
 を、始、め、橋、本、欣、五、郎、氏、其
 他、急、進、派、の、激、昂、を、買、ひ、
 こ、と、に、目、下、南、方、戦、線、で
 旗、色、が、悪、い、に、つ、け、敵、側
 に、對、し、一、種、の、和、平、の、探

門萬戸新年を恭賀
 する事を得たが、何
 んと云、ても一抹の
 寂し、み、は、如何、とも
 なし、得、な、か、た。

りと見らるゝ、恐れあり
 として居る。又、南京政府
 次席周佛海氏も「大東亞
 政策はモンロー主義に
 非ず、世界に東亞を解放
 するもの」と云ひ、兩演
 説とも各國語に譯され
 て世界中に放送された
 事は、益、物、議、の、種、と、な、て
 居る。因、み、に、汪、精、衛、氏、が
 昭和拾年八月蔣介石氏
 等と會同の席上刺客か
 ら受、け、た、拳、銃、彈、が、八、年
 間、も、体、に、障、ら、な、か、た、の
 に、今、回、急、に、抜、取、り、手、術
 の、爲、に、入、院、中、で、周、佛、海、氏
 が、代、て、新、年、演、説、を、や、ら
 事、は、南、京、上、海、方、面、專、ら
 の、噂、汪、精、衛、氏、又、刺、客、に
 襲、は、る、重、傷、重、態、の、デ、マ

が日本にまで飛火して
 居る。[獨]立と菲島政治
 宣言以來三月のフ、リ、ビ
 ンでは物價其他の經濟
 問題、國語問題、教育問題
 等自然不自然の諸問題
 で、行、惱、を感、じて居るが、
 最近内務次官を二名に
 し、其一、名を警察隊長ピ
 レルモ、フランシスコ將
 軍を以てし、警察隊の大
 拡張を行、て、四万人とし、
 之をゲリラ等と戰爭を
 やり、うる軍隊式のもの
 とするとの発表は國內
 の治安、ギルバトの攻
 略、マ、シャルの瀕、たる
 空襲と睨、み合せ相當深
 酷なるもの、を與へた。

西南及南太平洋戰況(某
 基地特報)
 ニ、ブ、リ、テ、ン、方、面、
 守防禦、まかりまちが、
 ば放棄と決、ま、て、る、軍
 部の吐、が、い、つ、と、は、な、し
 に、列、兵、闘、將、の、間、に、洩、れ
 た、も、の、か、日、本、軍、の、戦、闘
 ぶり、が、變、て、來、た、昨、今、其
 ラ、バ、ウ、ル、攻、略、に、先、だ、ち
 それ、を、連、續、空、襲、す、る、爲
 近、接、基、地、獲、得、上、行、た、去
 る、十、二、月、廿、六、日、の、ニ、
 ブ、リ、テ、ン、グ、ロ、ス、タ、岬、上
 陸、作、戦、は、物、の、美、事、に、成
 功、其、の、上、陸、に、先、立、つ、月
 餘、の、爆、撃、に、日、軍、は、あ、さ
 リ、こ、を、明、渡、し、今、で、は、
 爆、撃、で、滅、茶、均、に、な、た
 飛行場の地均も略、済、ん

で居る由報せられてゐ
 る。[ニ]、ギ、ニア、及、ビ、チ、ア、ツ
 海峽方面、制海制空面
 權を其手中に収めて居
 る、聯合側ではビチアツ
 海峽の完全制
 圧を、既、
 報、指、し、通、
 ブ、リ、テ、ン、
 ン、マ、
 カ、ス、岬、
 上、陸、
 した、が、一、方、ニ、ギ、ニア
 フ、オ、ン、半、島、作、戦、の、濠
 洲、日、本、側、補、給、大、発、着



点を占領内地ラム谷地
 域作戦に呼應の米軍部
 隊は一月二日マダソの
 東南八十四キロのサイ
 ドルに奇襲上陸、この
 全くニューギニア方面日
 本部隊の包圍は成、たの
 である。何を云ふにも艦
 と機を欠く日本側はみ
 す、
 なか、た。
 ソロモン方面及航空戦
 ブーガンビル島トロ
 キナ方面米軍はグロス
 タ岬よりのラバウル方
 面作戦の進展に呼應進
 進を開始すべく、目下満
 を持し居るが、前記グ
 ース岬上陸作戦にお
 けるカビエン、ラバウル

の牽制猛爆の外聯合側
 空軍は殆ど毎日の様
 日本側陣地基地等を空
 襲、其昨年十二月中の延
 べ機數一万台に上りマ
 シェル群島空襲も數回
 及び、其各方面投下爆
 弾及び機砲機銃発射弾
 數も亦相當量である。日
 本側の作戦消極化と共
 に餘り艦船の好目標は
 呈さなくなつたが、しか
 二、三月廿五日に駆逐艦一
 隻商船三隻を沈め、一月
 二日は巡洋艦二隻を
 炎上せしめた。か、ては
 活躍した日本側補給
 用大発も聯合側の海上
 及び航空部隊のため

全く、
 て細々、
 をつないでる始末であ
 る。
 東亞方面情勢(リスボン
 特報)
 米國より加奈陀を貫く
 軍用大道路の完成アラ
 スカよりリダツチハバ
 にか、け、落下傘部隊を
 含む日本北辺方面軍の集
 結、ギルバートの攻略、ビ
 ルマ印度國境方面英米
 軍の集結、在支米空軍の
 強化等、に對應、日本でも
 國土防衛軍を強化其爲
 徴兵適齡一年繰下げ迄
 も断行、又空襲に備へエ
 場都市住民の分散等の
 発令も見たが、歐洲國民

と違ひ元寇以來七百五
 十年外襲に経験のない
 日本人の事として、當局は
 頗る憂慮して居ると報
 ぜられ、てゐる。

ヨロロ、パ方面戦況(スト、
 クホルム特電)

〔十千海軍の無謀〕ムル
 マンスク向け聯合側武
 器軍需の輸送が十千潜
 水艦の失敗以來益強化
 され且つ十千側では口
 シア冬期攻勢の成功に
 焦慮、遂に戦闘艦シヤル
 ホルスト二万六千トン
 が單身護衛船団防害に
 出動、十二月廿六日反、て
 英國駆逐艦二隻の雷轟
 を受け退却の途上戦艦
 に止を刺されたが、これ

で十千海軍は一万トン
 の豆戦艦を主力とする
 ものに顛落した。因に此
 のロシアのムルマンズ
 ク港はメキシコ暖流の
 関係上不凍港である。
 〔陸上戦局概観〕伊、國、東
 部に於て英軍は既にオ
 ルトナを占領、ペスカラ
 港(ロ)も其射程に入れ、西
 キ口では米軍がロイマ攻
 略の途上にある。又聯合
 側空軍による交通破壊
 作戦に加へて、其空輸に
 よるギリシヤ、ユーゴス
 ラビア等に蜂起したゲ
 リラ等に對する援助は
 大に十千側を悩まして
 居るが、一方十千國內及

北、佛軍需工場爆轟は毎
 日毎夜の行事で、ベルリ
 ンも五月以來爆弾十萬
 トンを浴び首都たる機
 能を失つた。ロシアでは冬
 期攻勢が進展、十千軍キ
 エフ西方部面が危殆に
 瀕し、ポーランド國境を
 こえての退却も必至と
 見らるゝに至りて居る。



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TOKYO NEWS - SOME ASPECTS OF NEW YEAR IN WAR TIME.

The custom of putting a pine tree in front of the gate at New Year is not really a classical tradition in Japan. We do not find it mentioned in the "Annals of Olden Times" (Kojiki) and, strange as it may sound, you will not find either the "kadomatsu" or the cherry blossoms in the poems of the "Manyoshu" (early 9th century compilation of poems).

The strictness of the authorities in not allowing waste of timber is nothing to wax hot about. The timber must be used to the utmost for charcoal and wooden ships. Thanks to the efforts of the government, 35 varieties of food for New Year dishes were put on the market. They included beans, midget sardines, herring roes, ribbon-seaweed, etc., so that it was possible in the six large cities to celebrate New Year more or less in the customary manner. Nevertheless the celebrations were marked by an inevitable tinge of sadness, because of things lacking or absent.

NEW YEAR ORATIONS AND THE DIEHARDS. In the New Year oration given by Premier Tojo neither of the phrases "Greater East Asia" or "Co-prosperity Sphere" was used. In spite of his grand talk about the prosperity of the whole world, this could only be interpreted as abandonment of the ideology of the Great East Asia bloc. This is said to have caused commotion and anger amongst diehards like General Matsui, Admiral Suetsugo, Hasimoto Kingoro and others. They seem to find in Tojo's latest approach some sort of peace feeler towards the enemy, connected with the unsatisfactory military situation in the South.

Shu Futsukai (Chou Ku hai) deputy executive of the Nankin Government, stated in his New Year speech that the G.E.A. policy is not a Monroe doctrine and that it is intended to open East Asia to the world. These speeches are causing all the more comment because they have been broadcast in translation all over the world.

In passing it may be noted that an operation on Wang Ching Wei, allegedly for the extraction of a bullet lodged in his body by a would-be assassin when he was in conference with Generalissimo Chiang Kai Shek and other statesmen in 1935, was given as the reason for Shu Futsu kai giving the New Year speech in his place.

It certainly seems strange that the bullet which Wang Ching wei had been carrying round with him for well over eight years without any apparent harm to him, all of a sudden had to be removed. No wonder that this has given rise both in China and Japan to unsavoury rumours of another attempt at assassination, causing severe wounds to Wang Ching wei.

INDEPENDENCE AND GOVERNMENT IN THE P.I. Only 3 months after the declaration of independence of the P.I., the country is brimming over with all sorts of problems of an economic, educational and political nature. There is the prices problem, the language difficulty and the problem of the schools, which seem impossible to solve. We learn of the appointment of two Vice-Ministers for Internal Affairs. One of them is Pilalmo Francisco, the Commissioner of Police. It has been decided to expand the Police Force to over 40,000 and to organise this force into a sort of army able to fight the so-called guerillas. These reports, coming on top of the news of the loss of the Gilbert Islands and the frequent air raids on the Marshall Islands, are causing deep concern also in view of internal conditions in the P.I.

CERTAIN BASE IN SOUTH PACIFIC.

War Situation in South West and South Pacific.

New Britain Area. Of late the fighting zeal of the Japanese forces seems to have weakened. Possibly the intention of the High Command to give up defence and withdraw, should the development of the situation warrant that decision, has leaked out to the troops at the front. The landing in the Cape Gloucester area, which took place on December 26, has met with brilliant success. Its object was the acquisition of nearby bases for even stronger and more continuous bombings of Rabaul, before it is occupied. Helped by Allied air attacks on this area for more than a month beforehand, the Japanese were easily forced to withdraw from this sector. It is reported that repairs of the captured airfields by the Allied forces have proceeded favourably and are now nearly completed.

New Guinea and Vitiaz Straits. As reported in our previous issue, the Allies, having complete command of the sea and air in this region, have landed at Cape Mercus in New Britain. They have thus assured for themselves perfect control of the Vitiaz Straits.

Australian forces, fighting in the Huon Peninsula of New Guinea, have occupied Walingai, hitherto an important link in the Japanese lines of supply. It was used as a shelter for incoming and outgoing Japanese barges, transporting supplies and reinforcements.

American forces, acting in concert with the forces fighting in the Ramu Valley, have effected a surprise landing at Saidor, about 84 kilometres S.E. of Madang. By these moves the Japanese forces in New Guinea have been completely encircled. The Japanese forces, lacking sea and air support, cannot possibly delay or prevent the acceleration of the tightening of the ring around them.

Solomon Islands and Air Fighting. The American forces in the Torokina area of Bougainville have consolidated their position, and are holding themselves in readiness for further developments of the Rabaul operations which are expected from the direction of Cape Gloucester.

In addition to the continuous blastings of the Rabaul and Kavieng areas by Allied planes in support of the Gloucester landing, described above, the Allied airforce has been directing almost daily attacks against various Japanese positions and bases. During last December Allied planes made a total of 10,000 sorties.

The Marshall Islands also have been bombed several times. These raids on various bases were carried out with large quantities of bombs and ammunition, causing great damage to the targets.

As a result of the negative attitude of the High Command in this area, the sea offers fewer targets. Nevertheless on December 25 at Kavieng one Japanese destroyer and three merchantmen were sunk by Allied aircraft, while on January 2, two Japanese cruisers were set on fire. There has been a great decline in the activities of Japanese supply barges, due to action of Allied naval and air forces, and outlying Japanese garrisons are now in a precarious position. They depend for supplies on the inadequate loads sneaked in by submarine.

LISBON - SITUATION IN EAST ASIA. In view of the completion of the great military highway from America through Canada, the massing of American troops, including paratroops, in Alaska and Dutch Harbour, the concentration of Anglo-American forces on the Burma-India frontier, combined with the Allied capture of the Gilberts and the reinforcement of the American and Chinese air forces in China, it is not surprising that in Japan extra measures are being taken for strengthening of home defence. The Japanese government has already decided to lower the conscription age by one year, and as a precaution against air raids to disperse factories and part of the population

of the cities to rural areas. The authorities of Japan, a country which in contrast to most European countries has had no experience of invasion since the Mongolian attempt at the end of the 13th century, are showing great concern at the threat to which the country is now exposed.

STOCKHOLM - WAR SITUATION IN EUROPE. RECKLESSNESS OF GERMAN NAVY

Since the failure of Nazi submarine warfare, the convoying of war supplies to Murmansk has greatly increased. This fact, combined with the initial successes of the Soviet winter offensive, caused the German battleship "Scharnhorst" (26,000 tons) to attack an Allied convoy. As a result, on December 26, it received torpedo hits from two British destroyers and was sunk by a British battleship on its retreat from the scene of the first action. The nucleus of the German surface fleet has now been reduced to two 10,000 ton pocket battleships.

Murmansk is a Russian port which remains free of ice, thanks to the Gulf Stream.

WAR SITUATION ON THE CONTINENT. In Italy the British Army has captured Ortona. The port of Pescara, 160 kms NE by E of Rome, has already been brought within range of their guns. On the west coast, the American forces are on their way to Rome.

The Nazi forces are hampered by the activities of guerilla forces in Greece and Yugoslavia, which are inspired and assisted by increasing Allied air activity, directed towards the destruction of German communications in Italy and the Balkans.

Allied air raids on war industries and other important objectives in Germany and northern France are practically daily affairs. Berlin has been blasted with about 100,000 tons of bombs since May and by dint of these fierce attacks has lost its ability to function normally as the capital of the Reich.

In Russia the winter offensive has started. The German forces west of Kiev are now in an extremely dangerous position. The crossing of the Polish frontier by the Soviet armies in pursuit of the withdrawing Nazi forces has become imminent.

LITERARY ITEM. Picture of Japanese professional comic storyteller in the course of his recitation. Over it a short poem:-

The grandfather taking his grandson out to attend the midday session in the storyteller's theatre. What a peaceful, happy New Year scene!

This picture is calculated to have a nostalgic effect in reminding the soldiers of the piping days of peace in the home country.

MAP TO BE INSERTED. Map on the lines of attached newspaper clipping with the places of recent landings and other current operations marked. The arrows should be omitted.