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明和十八年七月十一日編輯

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たば軍を所にチルでン決を左のにに會知端にがん。」を合いいかはり議三の通對對でうは を計つからなり、特通 E 佛 店 7 白王 胃 GP ン、馬マの 言え 等 並 後 は 口号です

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"SOUTH PACIFIC NEWS BULLETIN, No. 15".

SOUTH AND SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA. CERTAIN BASE. In a seriou of coordinated moves, U.S. forces, with naval and air support from Australians, have attained the following results up to Jul 4.

Solomons: Early on Jun 30 U.S. forces with fleet and air force protection landed on Rendova island, 150 miles northwest of Guadalcanal and soon overwhelmed defending Japanese positions. Landings were also made at Viru Bay on the Southeast coast of New Georgia, where mopping up operations are now proceeding. The island, of Vanguna, to the southeast of New Georgia, was successfully attacked and 300 of the Japanese garrison at Vura village were annihilated.

These moves seriously endanger the Japanese air base at Munda on New Georgia which is now under direct artillery fire from American positions on Rendova island. All major Japanese positions in the vicinity are under constant Allied air attacks.

Japanese air units which attempted to interfere with American operations were seriously mauled and 123 Japanese planes were shot down on June 30 and July 1 in the vicinity. A Japanese naval unit was driven off after attempts at shelling Rendova island.

American losses in men, ships and planes so far are officially described as light, mainly due to the fact that some of the operations took the Japanese defenders by surprise.

New Guinea: The Trobriand and Woodlark groups of islands, to the north of Milne Bay, where occupied by American forces in strength.

American forces on June 30 landed at Nassau Bay, 15 miles south of Salamaua and have since linked up with Australian forces advancing from the Mubo area. Japanese positions in this region are continuously being bombed and strafed by Allied aircraft.

New Britain: The Rabaul area is being bombed almost daily in increasing strength.

MAP OF Solomons, New Guinea, New Britain Area.

LISBON. EUROPEAN WAR NEWS ROUND-UP:

Germany: Large-scale bombing of industrial centres inside Germany and in German-occupied Western Europe continues. The evacuation of more towns in the Ruhr district has been ordered by the German High Command.

Italy: Aerodromes, ports and other military installations on Sicily, Sardinia, and the Italian mainland are being bombed daily. A hundred or more planes often make up a raiding force on a single target. The town of Narlow is reported to be in shambles and the ports on the island of Sicily are said to be unusable. In one place, the Italians, revealing their fear of an Allied invasion, have begun to blow up port installations. Finally at daybreak on 10 Jul the Allies landed in force at several points on Sicily, after severe naval and aerial bombardments over night, and are now pressing on despite German and Italian resistance.

Successes against U-Boats: Hitler's war life-line U-boats had their worst months in May and June this year, during which period no less than 50 of them were definitely sunk and many more probably sunk or heavily damaged. Consequently, damage done by them to Allied shipping has lessened considerably and sinkings in June were the lowest since War began. Nazi circles, dieturbed about this development, are urging that new measures should be adopted to increase U-boat efficiency.

THE SHIPPING WORLD.

Batavia: Rubber Ship Launched. Domei Tsushin reported several months ago that efforts at rubber ship (not rubbish ship) construction were being made in Java. A small vessel has just been completed and will operate soon. The vessel is a seagoing lighter constructed largely of rubber and the idea is that she will be dismantled after being towed to Japan and the rubber used for manufacturing purposes. This lighter took five months to build and experts are wondering whether it is worth while to put so much labour and time into the building of a small ship which will only make one or two voyages before being broken up. On the other hand, Japan's shipping position is so very critical that every makeshift must be resorted to in order to maintain supplies of food and war materials to forces far from home.

TOKYO .

Prefectural Administration Reform: The Cabinet Information Board announced on Jun 28 that the creation of Prefectural Administration Councils has been decided upon at an extraordinary Cabinet meeting. The new liaison councils will consist of a president, nominated by the Prime Minister, and of several councillors representing prefectural agencies. Prime Minister Tojo as head of councillors can now transmit his wishes directly to prefectural authorities. This step was taken to strengthen further the Government's hold on all domestic matters.

Comment on above item: The militaristic Government seems not to trust the people, and to feel the necessity of even stricter domestic control as evidenced by the above news. Prime Minister Tojo in effect is desperately trying to treat the Japanese as if they were Italians, to convert the country into a second Italy with himself and his fellow-militarists as dictators. This development is causing wide spread resentment among the people as contrary to the spirit of the Emperorgiven Constitution, and is regarded as grave.

A Hundred Years' War and School Children's Mobilisation Scheme:

The Education Ministry has promulgated a new Wartime Children's (Training) Mobilisation Scheme. Its object is to train children for national defence. Explaining the scheme the Education Ministry declared that without regard to sex, the battlefields have been transferred to the school grounds of the Country.

Thoughtful people are seriously perturbed at the implications of the School Children's Mobilisation Scheme, promulgated by the Government. They point out that if the Government feels the necessity of mobilising children in the present critical stage of the war, they must in truth be preparing for a Hundred Years' War. The phrase becomes something more sinister than mere propagandist rhetoric.

DROPS OF THE BRUSH:

"Bon festival, Bon festival
We waited for so long, yet
It's only to-day and to-morrow (Work-day soon comes)"

gone days. Indeed, half of this year has already gone and ten per cent of the latter half as well - to the eternal past never to return!

This year Lunar is near Solar and the moon is fairly waxed when Bon is observed even in the Solar Calendar.

Hence it is not impossible probably to have the scane by Buson:

"A few still dancing, over them fall the bon yonder rmoon!"

But most verses re Bon are sad. Kigin's "All Souls' Week" as if they were still here is not so bad. The following three wrench one's soul:

"All Souls Feast Solitary Mother And his son!"

by Sosiki

"All Souls' Altar
Rejoiced is the tot
Able to reach out"

by Madame Chiyo

"Back from master
All souls' week leave
Sad and silent
Mother and the son"

by Meisetsu