



昭和十九年
八月十日發行

東條内閣總辭職、小磯新内閣生る

七月十八

日サイパン陥落の報傳はるや東條將軍がマニ
シヤル以來の任たる參謀總長辭任の申出により
一般の空氣頗る緊張化し且つ島田海相も亦其
任を辞し十九廿日の両日東條首相は絶大の努
力を拂て内閣強化に力めたるも人心既に東條
氏を離れたるものか一向に應ずるものなく流
石剛腹の東條氏も内閣投出しを決行大命は朝
鮮總督小磯國昭大將と米内光政海軍大將に協
力組閣と降下廿二日組閣を見た。顔ぶれは、
首相小磯大將、外相重光(留任)、内相大達(東京都
長官)、藏相石渡(留任)、陸相杉山、海相米内、法相松
阪検事總長、文相二宮、農商相島田、軍需相藤原、
運通相前田、厚生相廣瀬の諸氏である。

ドイツ高級將校のヒトラー總統暗殺計画

七月廿日東條首相辭職の同日ヒトラー總統は一
大佐の仕掛けたる爆弾にて負傷、これは其背後
ドイツ全國全軍に亘る陰謀の顯れと見做され
ドイツ官辺よりの報道によれば十キ軍將校は
反戦的命令を下したるものありと云ひ、且下ド

イツ國內情勢は混沌たるも中立筋よりの報道
は國內一般の不穏、東部ドイツ主要都市の戒嚴
令を云ひ、ベルリンの如きドイツ軍反乱の噂で
持切リである。十キ陸軍情報部長チートマル
將軍は此陰謀のため十キ軍戰闘力は頗る災ひ
せられたりと發表した由報ぜられて居る。

諸方面作戦に絡む統帥部内意見の確執

本年初夏河南方面作戦が月余に亘り且つ重慶
軍砲力が意外に強力で、百年前鑄造の洋砲しか
無かつた時とは格段の違ひで、野砲は愚か重砲迄も
所持し居た事、又目下行はれある衡陽包围でも
一向捲らぬのは是亦全く重慶側が意外に有力
を砲兵を有し且つ米空軍の援助ある爲なる事
いふ迄もなく、分解により米國製の野砲・重砲が
空輸で持込まれ、勿論桂林、貴陽、重慶等の奥地に相等規模の彈薬爆弾等の製造工廠が米人
の手によりある事も亦略窺ひ知らる、所とな
た。之に就いて參謀本部内及在支日本軍首腦
部間に、大東亜戰開始後半年、あの緒戦の勝利に
鑑み重慶側が妥協的態度に出なかた事明と存
るや、即座に今やて居る攻勢をやるべきであつて
當時それを提言したる者もあつたが顧られずし
て今日に至りたることにつき相等の物議が生
じて居り、又イムパール攻略パレル攻囲にして

も始め強襲にて後正攻にうつり丁度日露戦争当時の旅順に対する失態と同様で、且つ今や雨期に会し攻路・対壕等は水びたして用をなさず、また諸種の關係上參謀本部と南方派遣軍との間に確執となり撃て加へてサイパンに對する海軍こそに其空軍の援助不足があり而して此サイパンの陥落は事直接に日本々士の安全に關するものだけに之が東條内閣總辭職の直接原因となつたものである。然し戰時中は飽迄も其責に任すべき者が辞職するといふ事は其東亞諸民族に及ぼす影響甚だ面白からざるものがあり、雁首の嵌換で戦が思ふ様になるものでもない位は國民のよく承知して居る所で、サイパンの陥落に加へて國民の不安焦慮は頗る深酷なものがある。

【太平洋戦域概況】 【サイパンの陥落】

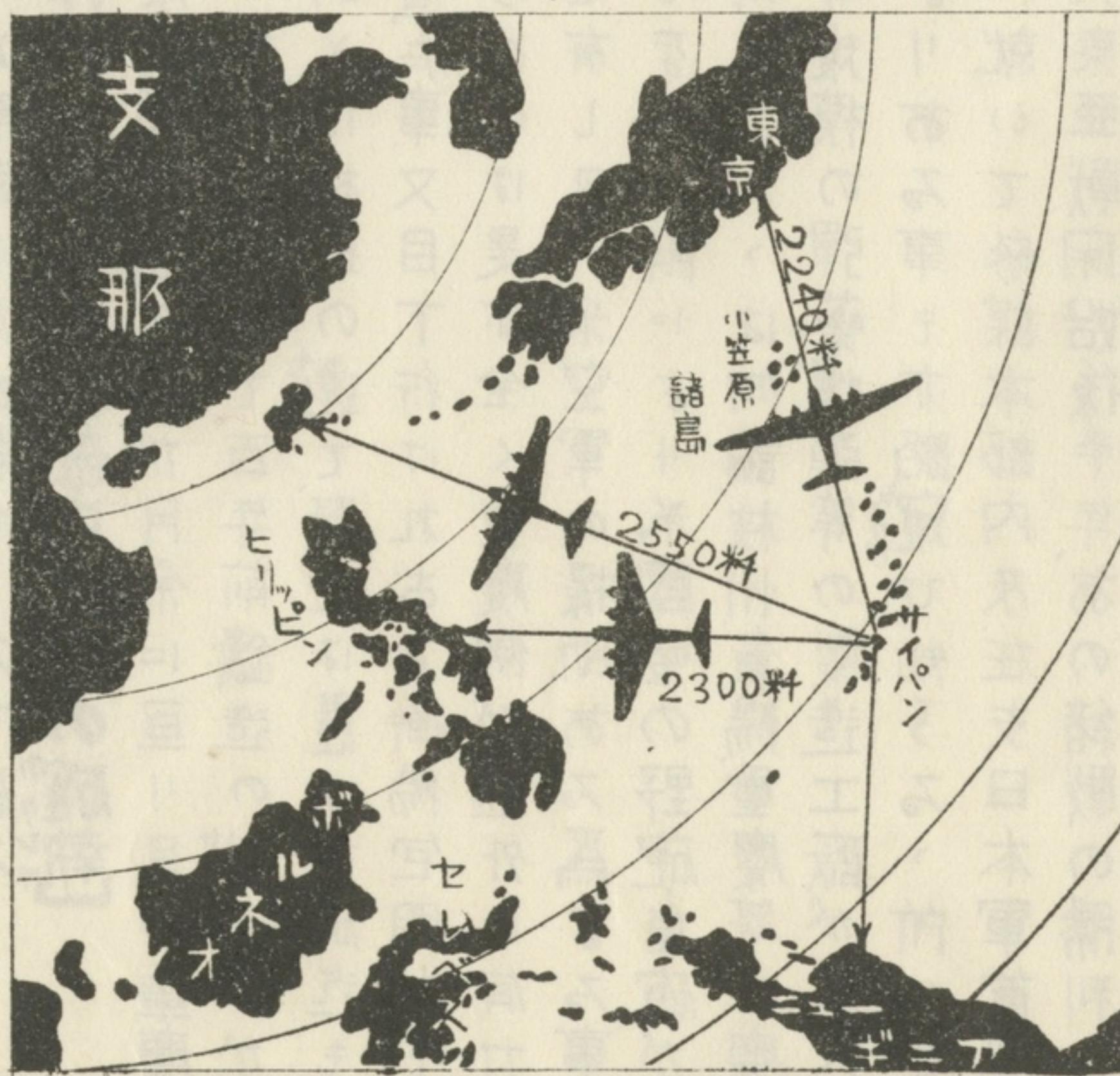
サイパンは七月九日陥落した。日軍將兵千余は投降地方人にして降りし者九千、皆米軍の手厚き扱ひを受けてある。サイパンは日本々土防衛上欠く可からざる地である。從て日本海軍も包围作戦中の聯合海軍に對し襲撃を試みたが失敗、反て航空機三五三機皆無となり、航母二、戰艦一、巡一、駆逐艦二が航空母一、駆一、油輸送船三を失ひ残余航母は航空機皆無となり、航母二、戰艦一、巡一、駆逐艦二が聯

合軍航母よりする航空機の爲に轟破の憂目を見て引上げの止むなきに至つたものであつた。

【グワム大空島攻撃】

七月廿日米軍は數日亘る空爆及艦砲射撃の結果グワム島に上陸、廿六日事實上其占領を遂げ昭和十六年十二月十日以

來オ一の無電通信を米軍はハワイ真珠湾に向け同島ヨリ発した。



【九州又爆撃を受く】

超空塞型米軍機は七月

本海軍は拱半傍観した。

七日又々北九州ハ幡、大村、佐世保等を爆轟。其途上楊子江流域をも爆轟。これら大型爆轟機はサイパンからも作戦し得るものであるが目下は猶支那本土より作戦し居るものらしく、又小笠原諸島の爆轟も頻々として行はれ居る情況である。

南太平洋方面

ビアク占領を完了した聯合軍は七月二日ノエムフール島に上陸。四日には其二飛行場をも占領。日本側は戦死せハ、投降將兵百卅六名を出し、又其空軍は全く出動せず。西部ニューギニア飛行場及港湾等は全部之を放棄。アイタペ方面に散在する日軍も空爆と艦砲射撃に脳込まれる状態で、ニューギニア西方に於ける聯合空軍の活躍は一層の勢を得。日本側艦船の被害に加へて七月十四日にはセラム島ブリラ油田に對し集中爆轟を敢行。其燃盛る火炎は九百メートル余の上空に及び貯藏所、港湾施設は甚大なる損害を蒙った。

ヨーロッパ戦況重大化す

東部戦線における十キロの全面的敗退

東部戦線における情況は今かく書いてある内に、其戦線は刻々にロシア軍の東進。十キロの西退を見て居るもので、其戦線は後退又後退實に十五キロに上り、南部ではルーマニア、ハン

ガリアに迫られ北端ではフィンランドをも失はんとして居り殊に聯合國北フランス上陸軍進出以來露軍の進軍は更に目覚ましく昭和十六年ヒトラー總統の抜打的露國侵入出発線に迄迫リボーランド首府ヘルツォーも僅かハ〇糠。其奪回は必至と見られ居リ。又其北方に於ては露軍は東部ドイツ國境鉄道要點をも占領。十キ軍の一部は既に其國土防衛に戰ひ居る始末。又地方人は避難退去に狂奔してゐる。

佛伊戰線及ドイツ國內情勢

東部戦線に呼應、フランス北岸上陸の聯合大軍はこゝ、二月數十個師の十キ軍を同方面に牽制。投降將兵五万四千余を得。ロシア軍をして前記戰果をあげしめで居るが一方イタリア方面十キ軍もそれがため亦同様援軍を期待し得ず。イタリア半島の三分の二は聯合軍の手に歸し、其正面は大体西海岸の要港レグホーンから山岳地帶のアレツキ。それから東海岸のアンコナ港に亘るローマ北方二百キロの線である。此方面でも十キ軍將兵投降は五月中旬以来だけでも三万余に上てゐる。又聯合空軍の活躍は北フランス戦線支持出轟の毎日数千回に及ぶ以外、ドイツ精油及軍需諸工場に對する航空作戦も殆ど毎日一万五千トンの爆弾投下と見て行はれ、其爲十キ

軍及其戦闘機動能力は三分の二以下に低下、軍合軍の作戦を助くる事甚大である。此爲爆弾に苛まれたドイツ國民及び前途に目の見えぬ軍人連は既に全面的敗戦を覺悟、其の現れとして去る廿日(七月十一日)頃冥にして和を講ぜず國利民福を計らざるヒトラ及十人党領袖連に對しドイツ將校團による爆弾事件が起りヒトラは負傷、其側近二三は即死、多數が負傷、ロシア方面及イタリア方面ドイツ軍高級將校の戦争遂行に対する態度頗る怪しきものあるやに譚されおりヒトラ總統暗殺陰謀以來投降將兵は俄に其數を増し之等情況に勢を得たフランス、ユーロッパ、スラビア等のゲリラ工場怠業等は益々盛で十人は全く四面楚歌の声の嘆を深うして居る。之に対し好個の対照をなすものイタリア國の大部介て平和は来る、大都市では飲料水の淨化糧食の供給、予防注射はもとより蚕取粉の貯蔵まで聯合軍々医部、看護兵、看護婦等のかゆい所に手の届く扱い皆ホーリとしてゐる。

東京別信 佐久間象山八十年祭

幕末二大思想家の一

人佐久間象山の八十年祭が去る七月十一日其郷里長野県松代で催され全國的に其事蹟家言等につき講演が行はれた。幕末の思想家とし



ては何と言ても象山、松陰の二人が代表者であるが、然し両人の色彩は全く同じでは無い。象山と松陰の間には師弟の關係があるにはあるが、前者が世界に目安を置いて日本の爲に謀るに反し、後者は若年の故か日本を主にして世界を見るといふ行き方であった。元治元年(今より八十年前)の米英蘭聯合艦隊下関砲戦、海兵上陸進軍により、松陰は其の非を悟り、爾來約七十年日本は象山流を國是として世界無比の長足の進歩を遂げた。殊に象山の人己ヲ譽ムルトモ我ニ於テ何ヲ力加ヘンと批評を歓迎した態度は又明治大正の日本の姿でもある。普通、ショウザンとよむが、実は郷里の川中島附近の山ゾウザンの名を取って号としたもので、決して南京の大儒陸象山(鎌倉幕府開府の年、五十四才にて歿)に因んだものではない等の説が史學会の講演等で聞かれた。

SOUTH PACIFIC NEWS BULLETIN, No. 35.

GENERAL KOISO, NEW PRIME MINISTER. WHOLE TOJO CABINET HAS RESIGNED.

On July 18th, Japan learned of the loss of Saipan. The seriousness of this defeat was emphasized by the simultaneous resignation of Tojo as Chief of the General Staff, the post he took up following the Marshalls disaster. Admiral Shimada also resigned the Navy Ministry.

There followed two days of suspense while the government made every effort to find new men to reinforce its strength, but confidence in the government had been shaken too badly. Even the self-willed and obstinate Premier Tojo felt he could no longer handle affairs, and resigned, together with the whole of his Cabinet.

The Emperor then charged General Kuniaki Koiso, Governor-General of Korea, and Admiral Mitsumasa Yonai jointly with the duty of forming a new Cabinet.

After two more days of waiting, the new cabinet was announced. General Koiso becomes Prime Minister. Shigemitsu remains Minister for Foreign Affairs and takes the GEA Ministry as well. Odachi, ex-Major of Greater Tokyo, becomes Home Minister; Ishiwata retains Finance. Sūgijama and Yonai take the Army and Navy Ministries respectively. Pro-General Matsozaka becomes Minister for Justice, Lieut.-General Ninomiya, Minister for Education; Shimada, Agriculture and Commerce; Fujiwara, Munitions; Mayeda, Transport and Communications, and Hirose, Welfare.

BOMB THROWN AT HITLER. GERMAN OFFICERS PLOT FUEHRER'S OVERTHROW.

On July 20, the same day as Tojo resigned, Hitler was wounded by a bomb, thrown by a German colonel.

This act was the result of a plot having wide ramifications throughout the German Army. The German News Agency reports that officers involved in the Revolt have given subversive orders to military formations at key points in the home army.

It is difficult at present to form an accurate picture of what is going on inside Germany. Neutral sources report widespread disorders in German cities. Martial law has been proclaimed in the capital of East Prussia, and Berlin is seething with rumours of mutiny on the eastern front.

An official German spokesman, General Dietmar, has said that there can be no doubt that "the conspiracy against the Nazi regime is doing considerable harm to our fighting strength in the field."

DIFFERENCES OF OPINION IN THE HIGH COMMAND OVER VARIOUS OPERATIONS.

The operations in Honan, which took place early this summer, were protracted for over a month, and the Japanese forces had to contend with unexpectedly strong opposition from Chinese artillery, which used heavy guns as well as field guns. There is a marked difference from the situation one or two years ago, when the Chinese seemed to have almost only obsolete guns, dug out of temple courts and old forts, several of them cast perhaps a century ago. The difficulties at present encountered in the siege of Henyang, which is not progressing to plan, must also be ascribed mainly to surprisingly strong Chinese artillery, combined with the assistance given to the Chinese by U.S. Airforces in China. It is clear that ordnance of American manufacture is being imported into China by air, and it is said that fairly large arsenals managed by Americans exist in the countryside near Kwei Chow, Kwei Yang, Chungking, etc.

The present offensive in China should have started a long time ago, as soon as it was clear that despite Japan's great victories in the first six months of the GEA War, Chungking was not interested in a compromise peace. At that time, there was an opinion in favour of an offensive which was, however, disregarded. The fact is again giving cause to much comment and friction.

There is difference of opinion between the General Staff and the Japanese Command in the South, with regard to the strategy followed in the Imphal and Palel operations. Criticism is based on the fact that the operations were started with a direct assault, afterwards changed into a regular siege, thereby repeating the error made in the Russo-Japanese war before Port Arthur. Now the rains have come and rendered earth works and trenches unusable.

Then there is also the lack of support by navy and airforce in Saipan. The fall of Saipan means an imminent threat to the homeland. It was the major cause of the resignation of Premier General Tojo with the whole of his Cabinet. This resignation in the middle of the war of the man who should have borne the responsibility for this war to the very end, cannot fail to make a most unfavourable impression upon the peoples of East Asia. The Japanese people are very well aware of the fact that this war cannot be won by merely changing the top, as one puts a new bowl to the stem of a pipe. It is therefore no wonder that great anxiety is felt by the nation at the present state of affairs.

On the same date, July 20th, when Tojo tendered his resignation, in Nazi Germany, Fuehrer Hitler was wounded by a bomb placed by a group of officers, who wanted to impeach him for his responsibility for German defeats on all fronts and to show their desire for immediate peace overtures. This coincidence is regarded by many as the mysterious hand of Karma.

WAR SITUATION IN THE PACIFIC.

Map showing strategic importance of SAIPAN.

The Fall of Saipan.

On July 9th, Saipan fell to the Allies.

In addition to more than a thousand prisoners of war, over 9,000 civilians surrendered to the American forces. They are, of course, receiving food and medical attention.

Saipan's strategic position in the heart of Japan's defences forced the Japanese Navy to try and relieve the island. It launched an unsuccessful attack against the investing Allied task force. 353 Japanese planes were lost, leaving the Japanese aircraft carriers practically empty of planes. This enabled Allied carrier-borne planes to sink 1 Japanese aircraft carrier, 1 destroyer and 3 tankers; 2 aircraft carriers, 1 battleship, 1 cruiser and 2 destroyers were damaged. The remainder of the Japanese fleet, having failed to interrupt Allied operations, withdrew from the area.

Occupation of Guam.

On July 20th, after days of bombing and naval bombardment, American forces landed on Guam. Resistance on Guam was virtually over on July 26. On that day, Guam radio returned to the air for the first time since December 10, 1941, in a message to Pearl Harbour.

On July 24, another Allied landing was made on Tinian, 3 miles from Saipan. As usual, the Japanese fleet withdrew and failed to protect the island. The beachhead on Tinian has been broadened and deepened.

Guam, Saipan and Tinian contain eight airfields and five harbours. The 2,400 km which separate them from Japan is a practical radius for fleet and air operations.

Kyushu Bombed Again. Bonin Islands Raided.

American Super-Fortresses were again over Kyushu on July 7. They bombed the industrial centres of Yawata and Omura and the naval base of Sasebo. During this flight, they also attacked places along the Yangtze.

Though these giant planes thought still to be operating from China bases, the homeland is also within range from Saipan.

The Bonin Islands, 1,200 kms south of Tokyo, were last attacked on 3rd and 4th of July. Five ships were sunk and twenty damaged.

South Pacific.

After completing the conquest of Biak, Allied troops landed on Noemfoor Island. Two days later, both airstrips on the island were in Allied hands. 38 Japanese officers and men were killed and 136 surrendered to the Allies.

There was no Japanese air opposition to this operation. The remaining Japanese airfields in western New Guinea have been virtually abandoned, and the harbours in this area have become similarly unusable.

The Japanese troops dispersed in the Aitape area are being subjected to constant air attack, as well as being shelled from the sea.

Allied air attacks on the islands and shipping to the west of New Guinea, have increased. On July 14, Boela oilfields on Ceram island were mass-raided. Flames from the burning oil shot up to 3,000 feet, and storage areas, derricks and other installations were heavily damaged.

WAR IN EUROPE TAKES A GRAVE TURN. RUSSIAN FORCES DRIVE TOWARDS GERMANY.

Even while we are writing this, the Russian troops are steadily continuing their advance in pursuit of the retreating Nazi armies and are pushing the eastern front westwards from day to day. Retreat has followed upon retreat, so that the front line has now been moved to the west over a distance of 1,500 km in the last 18 months. In the South, Rumania and Hungary are threatened, whereas in the extreme North, Finland is in danger.

Since the advance of the Allied forces which landed in Northern France, the onslaught of the Russian forces has been accelerated.

On the Eastern front, Russian armies are now past the line from which Hitler launched his attack on them in 1941. They are massing within 80 kms of Warsaw, and the recapture of the Polish capital is considered imminent.

Further north, the Russians firmly hold a railway junction practically on the East Prussian (German) boundary. Advanced elements are fighting on the border, while the Germans are frantically trying to evacuate the province.

FRONT IN FRANCE AND ITALY AND THE GERMAN HOME FRONT.

In conjunction with the Russian successes on the Eastern front, the large Allied forces which landed on the Northern coast of France have been able to contain dozens of Nazi divisions and made steady progress after the capture of the great port of Cherbourg. By mid-July, they had taken over 54,000 prisoners. By their action, they have facilitated the attainment of successes by the Russian army in their drive to the west. For the same reason, the Nazi army in Italy cannot expect any reinforcements, and in the meantime, two-thirds of the Italian peninsula has already fallen into the Allies' hands.

Their frontline now extends from Leghorn, an important port in the west, over Alezzo in the mountains, to Acona, a harbour on the east coast. This is a line about 200 km to the north of Rome. In this theatre, over 30,000 Nazis have been taken prisoner of war since the middle of May.

In addition to several thousand sorties a day of the Allied airforce, in support of the land operations in Northern France, there are prac-

tically continuous bombings of Nazi oil refineries, ammunition plants and other war installations in Germany, where almost every day well over 10,000 tons of bombs are raining down on industrial war targets. As a result, the operational capacity of the Germany Army and Air Forces has been reduced by more than one third, to the advantage of the Allied armies.

The German people, tormented by these bombings, and those soldiers who have a clear idea of what is in store for them, have given up hope of victory and are mentally prepared to lose this war. Evidence of this mentality can be found in the bomb plot engineered by a group of officers who, on July 20th, attempted assassination of Hitler and part of the Nazi hierarchy, who, disregarding the welfare of the nation, have thus far stubbornly refused to sue for peace. In this attempt, Hitler was wounded. A few people in his immediate surroundings were killed on the spot and many other casualties resulted. There are rumours of uncertainty in the attitude of high German commanding officers in Italy and Russia as to the continuation of the war. As news of the revolt in Germany came through, prisoners came in even faster. Sabotage and guerrilla activities in occupied France, Yugoslavia, etc., are on the increase, encouraged by this situation. The Nazis are more and more depressed by the feeling of having only enemies around them.

A strong contrast to this picture is supplied by the situation of the majority of the Italian people, who now have peace. They are giving a sigh of relief as they are well looked after in their cities, and enjoy the help of Allied medical and other services for obtaining food, pure drinking water and preventive injections against disease, as well as nursing where needed.

MORE NEWS FROM TOKIO:

Eightieth Anniversary of the Death of Sakuma Shozan. This anniversary was commemorated in Matsushiro, Nagano Prefecture, the birthplace of Sakuma Shozan, one of the two great thinkers of the Tokugawa period. At the same time, lectures on his work and thoughts were held all over the country. Nobody will deny that Shozan and Shoin were the two great philosophers towards the end of the feudal times. There was a considerable difference in the direction of their lines of thought. Whereas Sakuma Shozan planned for Japan as part of the world, Yoshida Shoin, maybe due to his still immature age, tended to look on his own country as the centre of the world. The mistake of the latter view was brought out in the happenings of the 1st year of the Ganji period (this was also eighty years ago), when the combined English, American and Netherlands squadron bombarded the Shimonoseki Strait, and then landed marines. Since then, for some seventy years, Japan made unprecedently great progress, whilst accepting Shozan's views in regard to the countrys' true position in the world. A typical feature of Japan's mentality in this period is expressed in Shozan's attitude of welcoming criticisms and his denial of the value of empty praise. In the lectures held on this occasion, it was, i.a., revealed that "Zozan" would really be the correct pronunciation of his name, as he took his penname from the name of the Zozan mountain, near the famous old battlefield of Kawanakajima, near his home. The name was said to have no connection whatsoever with that of Rikushozan (Lu Shiang Shan), famous scholar of the Southern Sung dynasty, who died at the age of 54 at the time when Yorimoto established his Shogunate at Kamagura (1192).

Illustration: Sketch of fireworks at river festival in Tokio with accompanying verse by the poet Shiki: "As we sit down at evening meal, we hear the fireworks of the river festival."

TARGET: All concentrations of Japanese troops.

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