

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RC05107

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同方 On July 30th Allied forces were established on the Vogelkop, the western tip of New Guinea. In another amphibious leap they have advanced to Sansapor, 320 km. beyond Noemfoor.

So the New Guinea campaign has been rounded off. Manokwari, already useless, has been by-passed and its garrison trapped. All New Guinea is now under the domination of Allied sea and air power. Further resistance by those Japanese troops who remain cut off in New Guinea is useless because it cannot affect the course of the war.

But the Allied advance to the Vogelkop means much more than the finish of a campaign which had already been decided. As the peninsula itself thrusts into the Indies, so Allied sea and air power is now projected into new areas.

Halmahera, Ceram. Ambon, etc. are now completely under Allied air domination. The Philippines, only about 1,000 kms. to the north west, are within closer range from the Vogelkop than from Saipan. The Celebes are within easy bombing range. The Aroe, Kai and Tanimbar Islands have been by-passed. They have become valueless and their garrisons impotent.

The long sea lines of supply which alone can maintain the Japanese positions in the western part of the Indies are imperilled. These positions are condemned to the same isolation that turned Japan's bases in the South Pacific into traps, and for the same reason. The Japanese command has not got enough ships or enough planes to defend and supply innumerable islands scattered over thousands of miles of sea, because of the imminent threats against the Inner Zone of homeland defences from other directions.

TARGET: Japanese Positions—particularly KAI, TANIMBAR, AROE Is. CERAM, AMBON, HALMAHERA, CELEBES, TIMOR, FLORES, SUMBA, SUMBAWA.

LATEST DATE

OF

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