

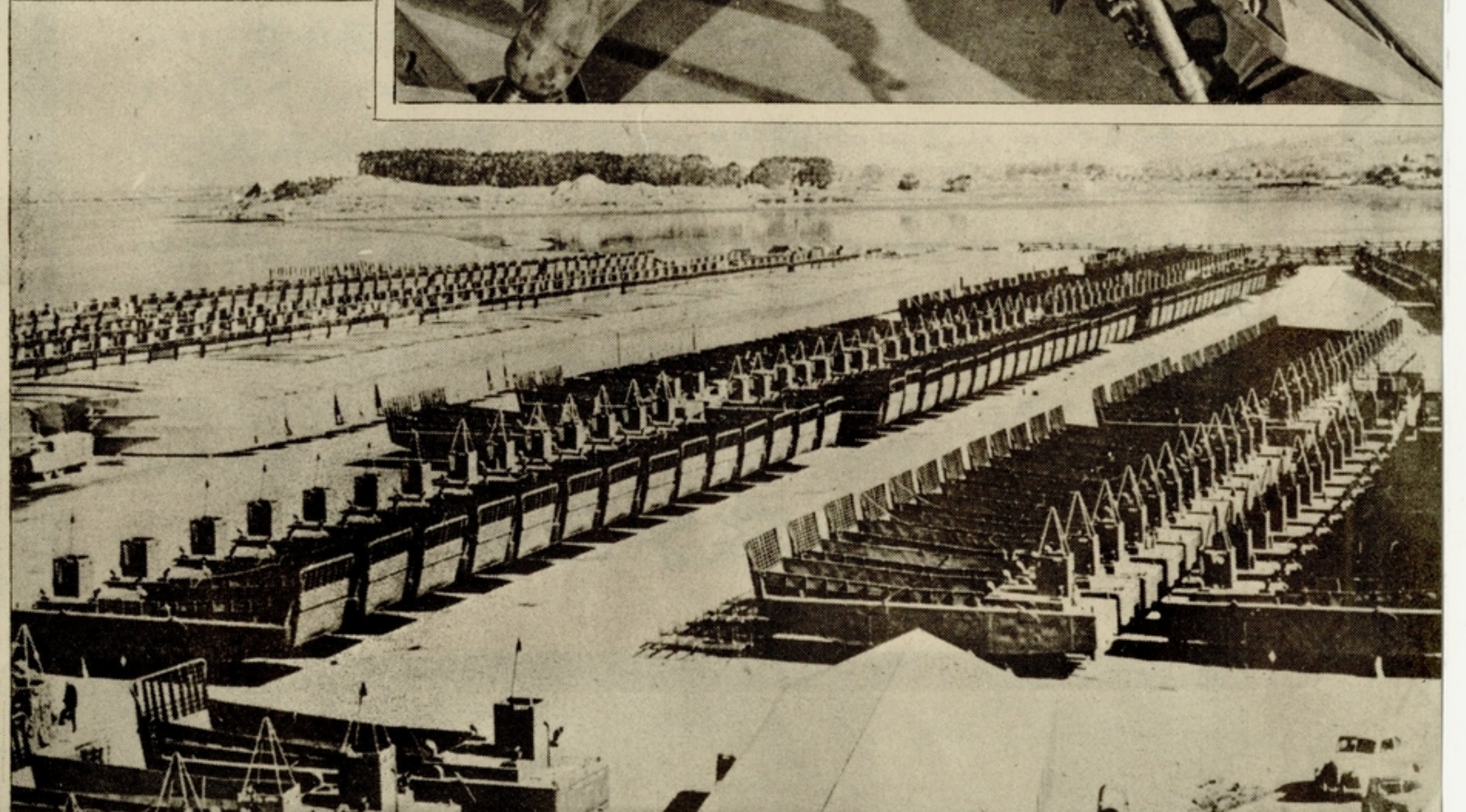
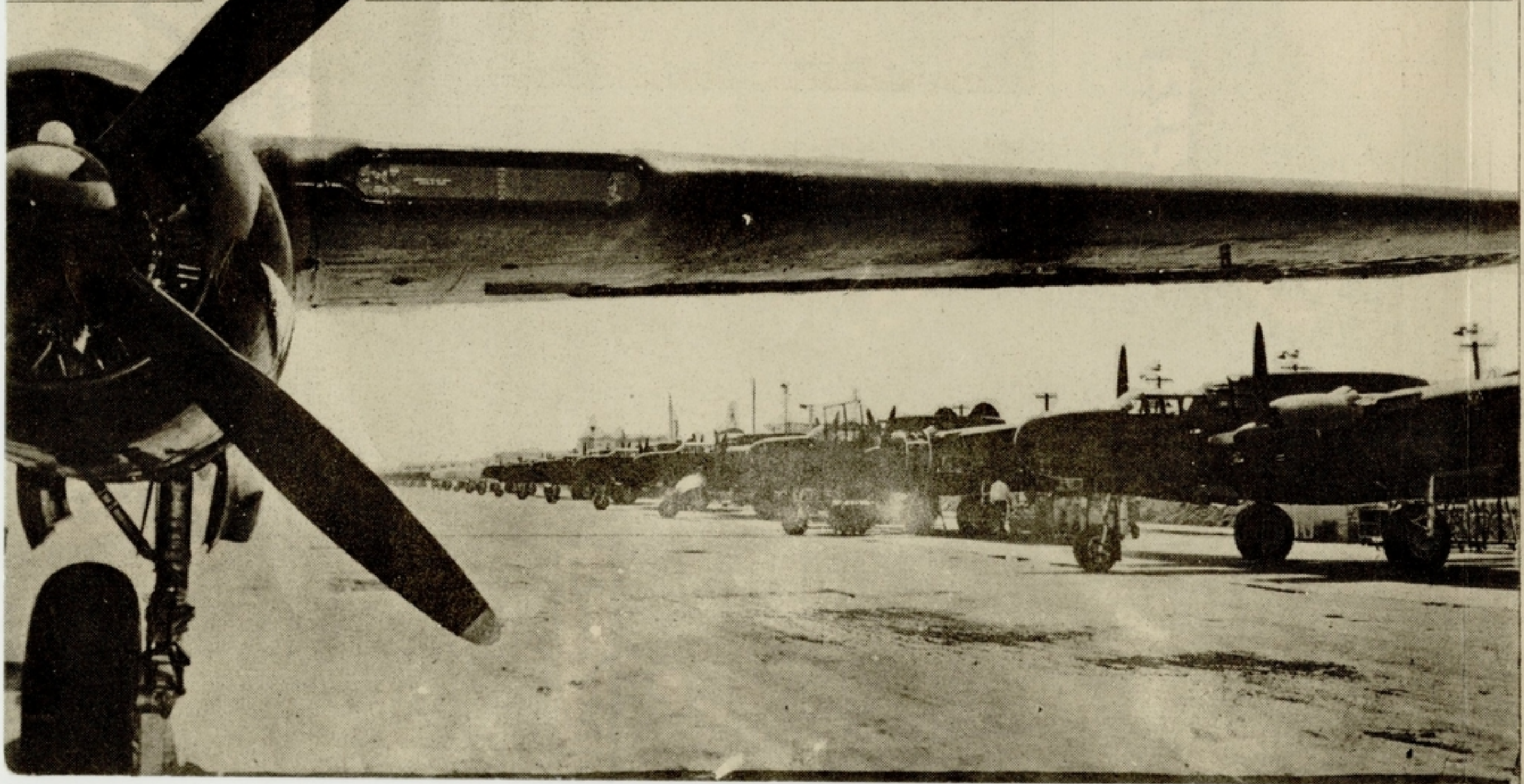
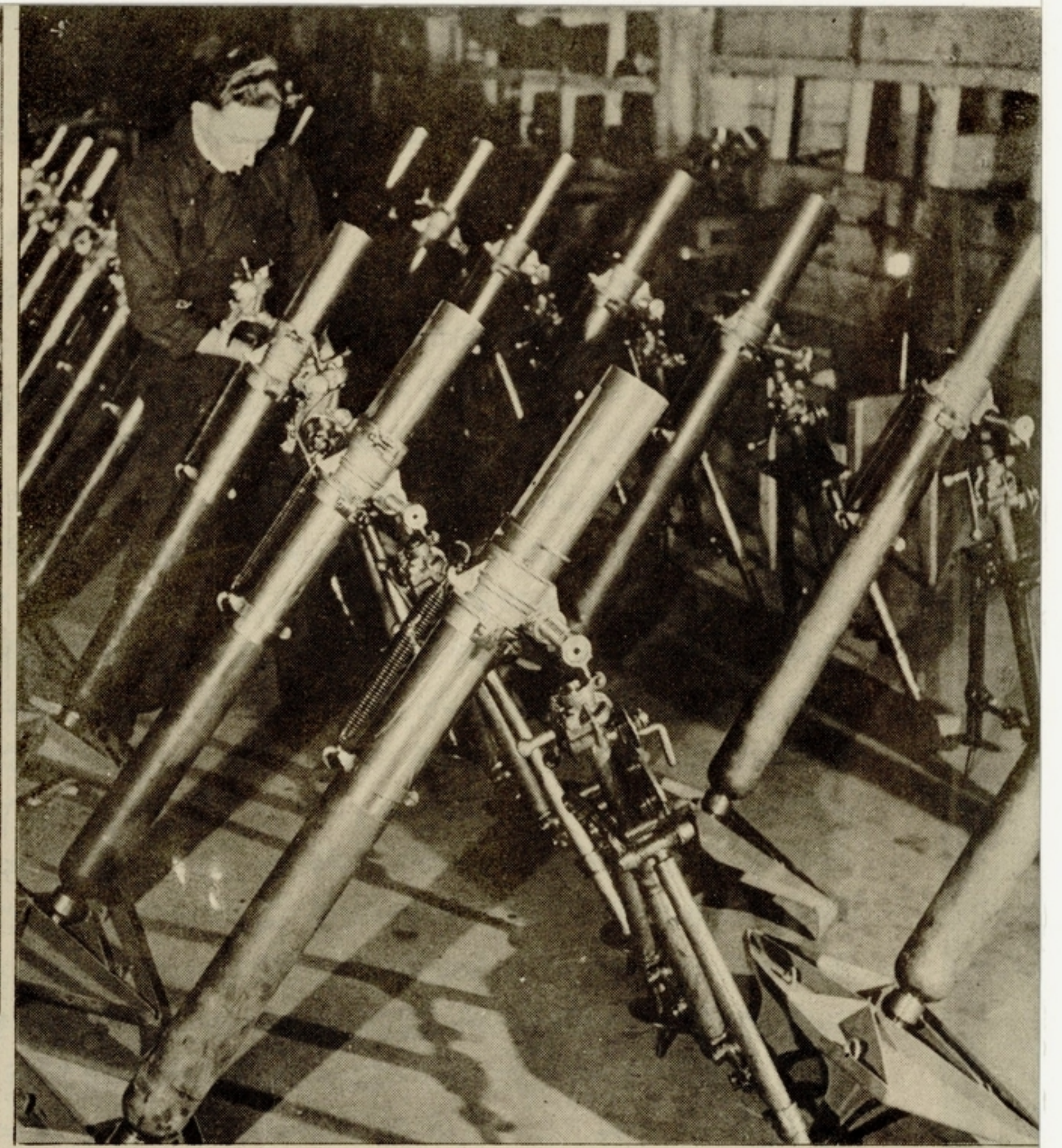
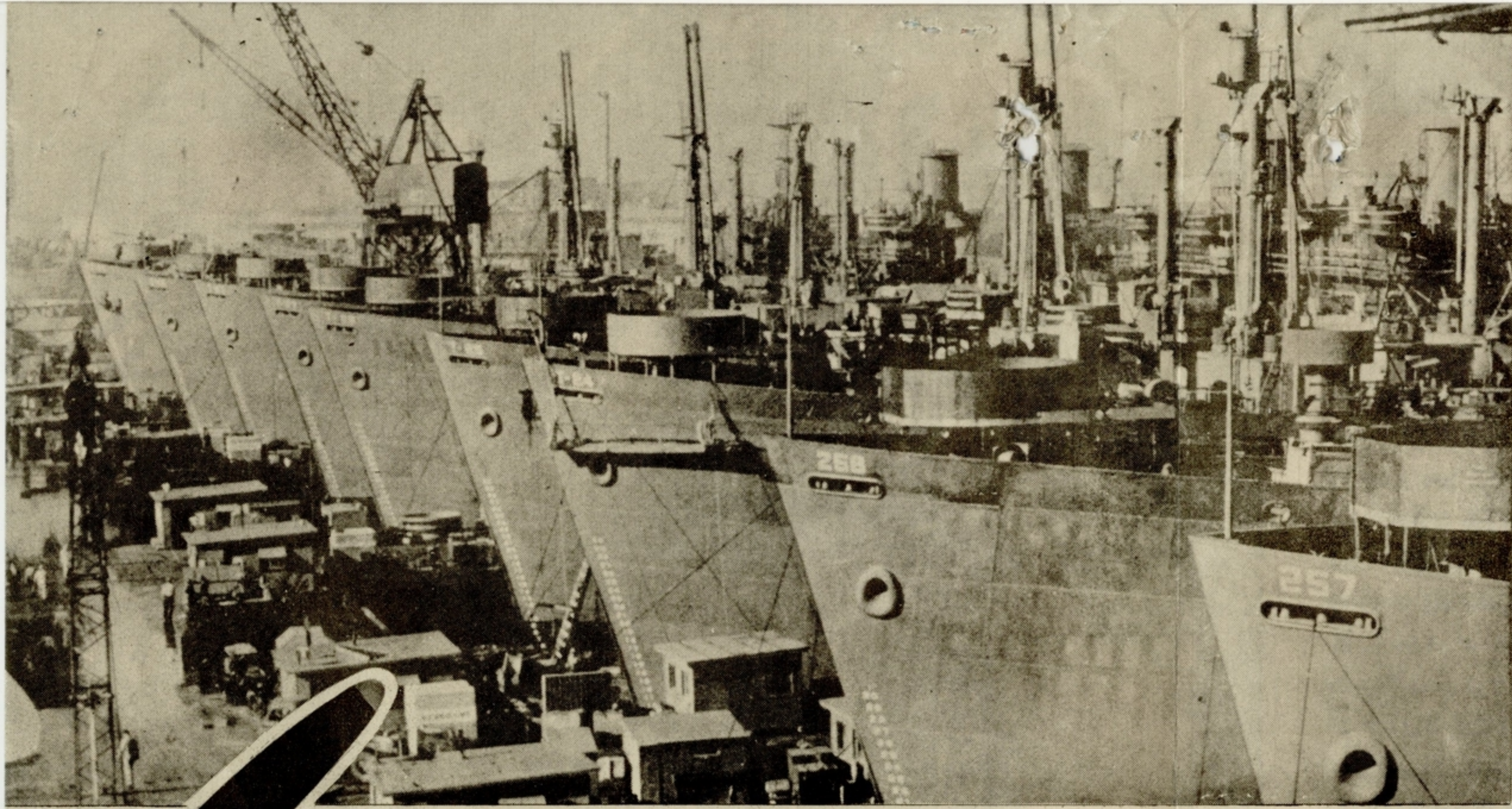
フィリピンへの道標

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日本軍將兵諸君

このとある二三、月諸君の考は聯合國のフィリピンへの作戦の展開にあつた事と思ふ。南部太平洋に於てはニューギニア北岸よりモロタイ、ついでフィリピンに指向されたる海陸空三位一體の進軍、中部太平洋に於ては日本のいはゆる内南洋諸島に對する同様なる進軍によるフィリピン東がはの無防禦と其露露、而して此のフィリピンに對し漸次に迫つた脅威が日本と表南洋との交通に重大なる影響を及ぼすものであることは何人にとりても明なるところであるにもかゝらず、統帥部はこの聯合國側の作戦を阻止し得なかつた。十月廿五廿六日の日本海軍が出雲の如きも反つて大損害を蒙り龍頭蛇尾に終り聯合國のフィリピン作戦には何等の交感を及ぼさなかつた。うらの寫眞は其理由の説明である。即ち聯合國連日連夜息をもちぬ艦船機砲等近代武器の生産が日本のそれにより且其敢闘精神が之を重付けけるからで、勇敢なる日本軍守備隊も海軍もはたまた空軍も、各所に於て思ふ様な戦は出来なかつたものである。今日聯合軍がフィリピンへ到達の途上各地に於て日本軍將兵にして武器弾量及火力の差により生ずる一方的戦闘に無益なる抵抗自滅ありも生き永らへて戦後の日本に盡す道をとる方が軍人として又國民として其責任を果す所以であるとの信念のもとに、当方にこゝれた人々の数はかなり多い。皆武人としての待遇を受け平和克復の曉又の御奉公を期して心身の修養に其日その日を静にかつ有意義に送つて居る。冷静なる判断、その決断の實行、之は軍人の本領である。國家の爲にならぬ死を避け、安んじたる處置に出らねたい。



MILESTONES TO THE PHILIPPINES

Officers and men of the Japanese Army:

For months now you have watched while the Allied plan of action against the Philippine islands unfolded.

In the South Pacific you have seen a series of amphibious operations carry Allied forces to every place of strategic importance along the north coast of New Guinea, then to Morotai and so to the Philippines. You have seen the Allies' Central Pacific forces gain possession or control of the Inner South Seas, leaving the Philippines without defences on the east.

The steady increase in the threat to the Philippines, which control Japan's communications with the Indies, was clear to everyone. Yet your High Command could do nothing to deflect the Allies from their pre-determined plan.

The pictures inside illustrate one of the most important causes—the huge quantities of planes, ships, tanks, guns and other weapons of war which pour out of Allies factories and shipyards every day.

When faced with the overwhelming weight of Allied metal, in additions to the Allies' high fighting spirit, the garrisons which are attacked and the Navy and air forces, which ought to protect and supply them are alike powerless, however bravely they may fight.

Along the Allies' road to the Philippines thousands of your fellow soldiers have learnt that without an adequate supply of the complicated weapons of mechanized warfare, without naval and air support, even their courage was of no avail. Surrounded on all sides they, therefore, came over to us, without dishonour, since they could no longer do anything to affect the issue of the fight. Treated as befits soldiers who have done their duty, they are waiting for the day when they can serve their country in peace once more.

TARGET: Japanese forces—General.

LATEST DATE OF DISTRIBUTION: 6 weeks after receipt.