

## WHERE AMERICAN TASK FORCE IS STRIKING

## TOKYO REPORTS BATTLE IS JOINED

# East U.S. Attacks Hits Invasion of Marshalls

Reich Silent

PROMOTED

American Warships, Aircraft Move Against

Jap Mandated Islands in Mid-Pacific

NAVAL CLASH FORESEEN

NEW YORK, Jan. 31.—(AP)—The Tokyo radio said today "Japanese Army" units which have been attacking the Marshall group since the morning of January 30 and fierce fighting is now going on.

Tokyo's reference to "Japanese Army" and Navy units suggested the possibility that American landing forces may have gone ashore on one or more of the islands or that surface warships may have clashed.

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz's communique issued at Pearl Harbor Sunday night made no mention of landings.

PEARL HARBOR, Jan. 31.—What may be one of the greatest naval task forces in history hurried upon hundreds of tons of explosives for the second consecutive day yesterday on the Japanese defenders of the invasion-threatened Marshall Islands.

Admiral Chester W. Nimitz's communique on progress of the attack said last night that surface forces—presumably battleships, cruisers and destroyers—launched within 10 to 20 miles of the heavily defended atolls to pound shore installations with thousands of rounds of shells.

AS ON TAWARA. The enemy forces presumably were building up gun emplacements and both shelters similar to those found on Tawara after the November 29 invasion of the Gilbert Islands.

Other carriers harassed Eniwetok, northwest atoll of the group, holding immobile by their heavy bombardment of the island.

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## From The Times:

## Today In Europe

Compiled from the news and editorial comment of the London Times, and edited from The Vancouver Daily Province London Bureau, Times Building, Printing House Square.

(Copyright, 1944, by Southern Co.)

LONDON, Jan. 31.—Four centres of Germany's war industry have been devastatingly bombed over the weekend and great air battles have taken place with a heavy loss of enemy fighters.

Berlin, which was the main target, has been ravaged once again and now, according to the Times correspondent in Stockholm, thousands of inhabitants, suitcases in hand, are picking their way through burning streets to find refuge in the country.

Seventeen of the damaged Swedish airplanes have to land at Stettin.

During one R.A.F. attack the city's defenses were put out of action and fighters alone were encountered.

Comparing the air raid on Coventry with that on Berlin, the Times says the Luftwaffe dropped one ton each minute, while the R.A.F. now drops as high as 50 tons a minute on the German capital.

Moreover, the weather used to ground the Luftwaffe. Now the R.A.F. faces all kinds of weather and bombs through clouds with the aid of secret devices.

The present British and Canadian bomber force consists almost entirely of four-engined Liberators, Halifaxes and Stirlings. Losses have been much less than expected.

Although the Germans have tried out a bewildering variety of new weapons, the bomber command has always been able to keep ahead and win great air battles which it took 900,000 men for anti-aircraft and searchlight duties only.

Of 50 Nazi armament cities, all have been attacked and about 20 have suffered crippling blows.

Editorially dealing with Hitler's speech on the eleventh anniversary of his seizure of power in Germany, the Times says the boasting and arrogance of the past were missing, "obviously because of German loss of control of the military situation on the eastern front."

Both sides remain a bogey represented as helpless along-side Russia while Germany poses as Europe's defender.

It is late in the day, says the Times, for Hitler, having brutally struck down so many small countries, to talk of a "European family of nations."

Most European nations already know who is the aggressor and are determined to organize against attacks from Germany.

The Times diplomatic correspondent says Hitler dwelt heavily on the possibility of Germany's defeat.

He referred only briefly to German war losses (at least two million dead) and he seemed to want to convince

Word from Tokyo today is that battle has opened between Japanese and Americans for the control of four atolls in the Marshall Islands. No confirmation is yet available from U.S. communique. This picture is taken flying over a seaplane atoll, one of the four which have been bombed repeatedly in the past month.

## Allies Launch Double Drive

### DNIPIER BEND DRIVE REPORTED

## Red Armies Reach Gateway To Baltic in Northern Push

MOSCOW, Jan. 31.—Russian troops, pushing rapidly west from Leningrad today along the shores of the Gulf of Finland, reached the approaches of Kingisepp, gateway to the Baltics.

Gen. Leonid A. Govorov's army passed Veimarn, 17 miles from the border of Estonia on the railway from Leningrad. The junction in east of Kingisepp, which controls entry into Estonia through a strip of ground between the Gulf and Lake Chudov.

Troops of Gen. Markian Popov's second pre-Baltic front maintained pressure from Novokolokol, approaching within less than 60 miles of Latvia along the Moscow-Riga railroad. This force encountered alternate blizzards and thaws which made the advance difficult.

### OFFENSIVE IN DNIPIER

The German communique said the Russians had launched a big scale attack on the Dnieper bend southwest of Dnepropetrovsk and achieved one penetration. Heavy battles were reported southwest of Cherkassy and southeast of Beryslav. The Germans acknowledged that the Russians "gained further ground" in several sectors between Lake Simsk and the Gulf of Finland. Several infiltrations were claimed south of the Pripiet and Berezhna rivers in southern White Russia.

The Germans admitted the Russians were advancing southwest of Cherkassy and southeast of Belaya Tserkov, south of Porybshchik in a six-day battle, wiping out more than 10 Soviet infantry divisions and several tank corps. The Germans said they took 6800 prisoners, killed 8000 Russians and captured or destroyed several hundred tanks and 680 guns.

### TREASURE TROVE IN BASEMENT

## POLICE UNCOVER JAP'S TULU ISLAND HOARD

By HARRY THORNTON.

Fearful that his hidden wealth would be discovered, Capt. J. Fukusuma, once mayor of Tokyo, has been found to have buried a small fortune in the basement of his home on the dyke.

The diminutive son of Nippon was brought back Friday from his temporary home in Sloan under police escort and the following day, after eight hours of digging, his hoard was recovered.

From a hole two feet deep beneath the cement floor of the basement police removed a tin-lined chest containing a length of wire containing 20 \$100 bills, 15 silver dollars, silver plates, (250 bills), a tobacco pouch containing an undisclosed sum in silver and two hundred of Japanese currency, neatly wrapped in tissue paper.

MOTIVE UNKNOWN.

The motive that prompted the former Japanese naval officer and skipper of the transport ship SS. Shinano Maru, to hide this money has not been ascertained.

Was this wealth set aside against the day when the Japanese would invade this coast or was it hidden as a stake to be dug up should the Orientals return to this coast with the coming of peace?

White fishermen on the river, to whom the captain is inclined to be friendly, theorized that the wily Jap realizes that they will never be allowed to return to assume their former position in the economic life of the province and decided to salvage what he could of his hidden wealth.

Police authorities say that after Pearl Harbor, Japanese were ordered to declare their assets and foreign exchange and that Fukusuma failed to comply.

Seattle Blacks Out SEATTLE, Jan. 31.—(AP)—Civilian defense officials were unanimous in their praise for results of the city's latest black out test.

(Continued on Page 2.) See BOARD.

## ROME, CASSINO DRIVES GO ON

WITH 5TH ARMY TROOPS SOUTH OF ROME, Jan. 31.—(AP)—Italian refugees from Rome said the Germans generally were withdrawing from the capital, leaving behind demolition troops to blow up specific buildings.

By WES GALLAGHER. Associated Press Staff Writer.

ALGIERS, Jan. 31.—British and American forces threw themselves forward with redoubled fury today toward the beach-head at Sidi Bou Rhodj, 100 miles from the Italian capital.

While Allied headquarters announced new gains in both areas, the German high command's communique admitted powerful tank and infantry forces had launched an offensive in a northerly and northeasterly direction from the beach-head.

The communique said the Allies were attacking the main German defenses in the Cassino area and admitted some penetrations had been made.

Allied headquarters said American and tank teams, in a surprise thrust across the Rapido river bottom, which had been deliberately flooded by the Germans, had broken through a part of the German defenses north of Cassino.

While Allied fighters and bombers scored a record bag in Italy in knocking down 63 German planes in a series of flattening assaults yesterday on the German bases in northeastern Italy, British Tammies and American Rangers, with tanks and tank-destroyer teams, fought a series of sharp actions along the Anzio bridgehead and enlarged their grip on the strategic wedge 19 or 20 miles below Rome.

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## 33 PLANES LOST

LONDON, Jan. 31.—(CP)—United States heavy bombers, escorted by fighters, bombed military objectives in the Pas-de-Calais area of France today, U.S. Army headquarters announced.

By AUSTIN BEALMEAR. Associated Press Staff Writer.

LONDON, Jan. 31.—Hundreds of big R.A.F. and B.C.A.F. bombers smashed at Berlin in a night raid, with a hail of incendiaries and high explosives.

An ominous silence fell over the whole of Germany after the night of January 30, when day bombers, including powerful American raids on Brunswick, Hanover and a second bomber blow at Frankfurt Saturday.

Communications between Berlin and Berlin, broken Sunday, were not restored until midday today, and the first dispatch coming from Berlin said last night's attack caused "great damage."

The air ministry said "a very strong force" of bombers struck Berlin, still flaming from assaults on Thursday and Friday night.

Thus Germany today began her twelfth year under Nazi rule with the homeland strewn with debris and death.

Smaller forces of night raiders stabbed at other objectives in central and western Germany. The entire night sky, which also saw day bombers, including 33 planes—including four from the R.C.A.F.—the smallest number since the last Berlin attacks. This indicated that the sustained assaults were proving a heavy drain on enemy resources.

First announcement of last night's Berlin raid followed by reports that the city was being bombed, but it probably was about average for the heavy attacks.

(Continued on Page 1.) See AIR.

Victoria Flyer Missing VICTORIA, Jan. 31.—(CP)—P.O. C. Travers, R.C.A.F. air bombardier, is reported missing overseas, his mother, Mrs. C. B. Travers, Royal Oak, has been advised.

P.O. Travers' wife and small son live in Vancouver, where prior to enlisting, he was employed by the Burrard Dry-docks.

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## Simonds Made Lt.-General, Corps Leader

(By Canadian Press.)

OTTAWA, Jan. 31.—Appointment of a Canadian Army commander and retirement of another were highlighted in an announcement here today by Defense Minister Ralston.

He announced these changes: Lt.-Gen. Guy Simonds, 40, has been promoted to the acting rank of lieutenant-general and to command of an armored division.

Lt.-Gen. E. W. Sanson, 53, has relinquished command of a division and will assume command of the acting rank of major-general.

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## One From City

Two B.C. Boys DROWN IN LAKE

A double skating tragedy Sunday claimed the lives of two B.C. youths, drowned in Osoyoos Lake when they broke through thin ice.

The victims were 15-year-old Barry Pugh, son of Provincial Police Constable Clarence Pugh, 1006 Granville, and Roy Tweedie, son of Mrs. J. Tweedie of Osoyoos.

Young Pugh, who formerly lived in Penticton, was working with a government party making a water survey in Okanagan basin.

The killed were Paul Threlkeld, 17, and Milton Cartwright, 18, both of the automobile.

The injured were Milton Cartwright, passenger, and Milton Cartwright, infant son.

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