

TWO MORE JAP SHIPS DAMAGED

Luzon Invasion Area Is Pounded Fiercely by U. S. Fliers.

(Continued on Page Two)

bombing technique was deteriorating and in raids yesterday many sticks of bombs were discharged harmlessly into the sea and Manila Bay.

Express Confidence

A report of the first week of the war by U. S. headquarters in the Far East, announcing the situation well in hand, added to the atmosphere of confidence.

The situation both on the ground and in the air was well in hand, the first week of operations came in close," the communiqué said.

"The resume of operations last week follows:

"The enemy carried out 14 major air raids on military objectives in the Philippines but paid dearly in loss of transports, planes and troops.

"At least two battleships were badly damaged as the result of the action of our air and ground forces.

"An enemy landing was attempted in the Lingayan area but was repulsed by a Philippine army division.

"The enemy effected unopposed landings in limited numbers in the Vigan, Legaspi and Aparsi areas but there is only local activity in those areas. Enemy naval units, troops and material on the ground were bombed effectively in the Vigan and Aparsi areas, hampering landing operations.

"Four enemy transports are known to have been sunk and three others seriously damaged by our air force in northern Luzon.

"Individual details of heroism and bravery on the part of American and Filipino ground troops and air units marked the week's operations and accounted for the destruction of 11 enemy planes in the air and on the ground Thursday.

Morale Is Splendid

"The total enemy air losses from all causes during the week are not less than 40 actually accounted for and probably many more which could not be verified. As no reports have come in it is assumed that casualties and property damage have been negligible.

"Gen. MacArthur (Lieut. Gen. Douglas MacArthur, commander-in-chief) has expressed favorable comment upon the splendid morale which exists not only throughout the military forces but throughout the entire population, but he has been negligent.

Pacific Air Scout



JAPAN REPORTS NEW ADVANCES

Claims Philippine Army Barracks Destroyed, Gains in Malaya.

TOKYO, Dec. 15 (U. P.)—(Official Japanese News Agency dispatches recorded by United Press)—Japanese imperial headquarters asserted today that Japanese troops had attacked a United States army headquarters at Tarlac, 70 miles northwest of Manila, and destroyed an army barracks.

The Japanese troops penetrated to Tarlac, on the main Lingayen-Manila railroad, after marching 40 miles inland from the West Luzon coast port of Iba, it was asserted.

The communiqué said that in the Aparsi sector on the north side of Malaya and the "common enemy."

Apparently Russia's plan is to devote her entire effort in the west for the present and throw her weight against Japan later, if all goes well.

That may come later if the Red Army is able to inflict a major defeat on Germany. It is to be noted that Litvinov referred to Japan as the "common enemy."

Hitler's reverses in Russia make it increasingly probable that the main German war effort will be turned elsewhere this winter.

However, as long as Russia adheres to her present intention of hammering at a retreating foe,

Hitler will not be able to dig in with a holding force while he transfers the bulk of his offensive power elsewhere. As Maxim Litvinov, the Soviet Ambassador, put it in Washington, Russia does not

propose to let Hitler sit down or "hibernate." Russia's continued offensive against the Germans is therefore of the utmost importance to Britain and the United States, in their struggle against Japan as well.

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