

YANKS SPEED AIR ATTACKS

U. S. Fleets Sweep Japan Twice Daily.

(Continued From Page One)

Moscow and was given a very cordial reception by the Russians.

V. M. Molotov, foreign affairs commissar, was at the airport to meet him. Chinese Premier T. V. Soong already was in the Soviet capital to plead for help from the Russians.

On Borneo Australian troops had captured most of the oil port of Balikpapan and were driving toward the Pandansari oil refinery area north of the city. One field dispatch said the captured Manggar airfield was almost ready for use.

Philippines Fighting Ends

Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced the end of the Philippines fighting with the destruction of 23 enemy divisions, or 450,000 troops.

Seventeen American divisions were used in the campaign, described by MacArthur as "the greatest disaster ever sustained by Japanese arms" and presumably the bulk of them were free for new operations.

MacArthur said the Philippines would be turned into a great invasion base rivaling England in the assault on western Europe.

On the Chinese mainland, the Japanese drive north from Luichow peninsula, apparently cover for a withdrawal from Hainan island, was halted. Chiangkang announced that Chinese troops has recaptured Fushan, lost two days ago to the Japanese.

In Tokyo Area

The first enemy accounts of today's attacks said nine Superforts and about 100 long-range Mustang fighters hit Honshu.

They concentrated on the Chiba, Ibaraki and Tochigi prefectures in the Tokyo area.

A few hours later about 200 Liberators and fighters attacked objectives in Kyushu. The heaviest blow was struck at Nagasaki and nearby Onura, the Japanese said. Other targets in Miyazaki, Oita, Saga and Nagasaki prefectures were attacked.

Thundering in across the Japanese coast in three formations, the raiders bombed and shot up ground targets in eastern Honshu for a full hour, according to the enemy version.

The attackers centered their fire on Japanese airfields in Chiba, Ibaraki and Tochigi prefectures east and north of Tokyo proper. The same general area was pointed by a similar Superfortress-fighter team yesterday.

Navy Moves In

Meanwhile, Tokyo reported that an American battle fleet was menacing the northern coast of Japan after a surprise bombardment Tuesday against Japanese-held Sakhalin island in the sea of Okhotsk.

The strike on Sakhalin carried American naval power almost within sight of Russian Siberia for the fleet's deepest penetration of Japanese waters since the war began.

It came as hundreds of American warplanes ranged at will over central and southern Japan with bombs and gunfire, finding Tokyo itself virtually stripped of defending airpower.

Through Kurile Islands

First word of the fleet attack on Sakhalin and the presence of American battle units of northern Japan came from the Tokyo radio and there was no immediate confirmation from Adm. Chester W. Nimitz's headquarters.

Tokyo said American surface units had broken through the Kurile island barrier and steamed more than 500 miles westward across the sea of Okhotsk to attack Sakhalin Tuesday.

Five warships of unidentified types steamed into Tarakan bay and opened a heavy bombardment of shore installations at Shikoku. American submarines, which shelled and machine-gunned Kaihyo island south of the bay Monday, surfaced off Shikoku to join the attack. Tokyo said.

Japs Alarmed

Tokyo spokesmen added the usual claim that no damage resulted but their alarm over the United States spreading naval activity in their northern waters was evident.

They said other American warships, in addition to the Shikoku attackers, were loose in the sea of Okhotsk north of Hokkaido, in the same area where a five-ship Japanese convoy was smashed on June 25.

The northern half of 500-mile-long Sakhalin is owned by Russia. Shikoku lies 55 miles south of the Russo-Japanese boundary line, 700 miles northeast of Vladivostok and 550 miles north of Tokyo.

Far to the south, almost 750 American warplanes, ranging from giant B-29 Superfortresses to long-range army fighters, celebrated the Fourth of July with one of their heaviest night and day assaults on the Japanese homeland.

A great fleet of 450 to 500 Superfortresses unloaded 3000 tons of fire bombs on the Shikoku island cities of Kochi, Tokushima and Takaamatsu and the Honshu port of Himeji.

All four cities were brilliantly lighted when the giant B-29's arrived shortly after midnight, offering

Gen. MacArthur to Attend Funeral for Premier Curtin

(Continued From Page One)



John Curtin

went into a hospital here. He improved and was able to leave in mid-June. Since then he had been resting at Canberra lodge.

Flags at Half-Staff.

Flies hours before he died, Curtin said good night to his trusted chauffeur, Ray Tracey.

"I've had a tough day," he told Tracey.

Shortly before midnight Mrs. Curtin brought in a cup of tea for him. Then he told his wife: "Off to bed with you."

Mrs. Curtin retired to an adjoining room, but she didn't sleep and was back at her husband's side before he died. Also there was their son, Sgt. John Francis Curtin, of the Royal Australian air force. Their other child, Mrs. Elsie Cole, was seriously ill.

All flags flew at half-staff today throughout the commonwealth for the policeman's son who led Australia through her darkest days. He became premier three months before the Pacific war began, and was the chief advocate of close cooperation between America and Australia in the fight against Japan. Curtin and MacArthur worked very closely together, and were very good friends.

Forde Is Candidate

The Australian parliament was to adjourn until after the funeral. It was expected the cabinet would be changed considerably as a result of Curtin's death. The two top candidates for his post were Forde and Joseph Benjamin Chifley, minister of the treasury.

WASHINGTON, July 5 (UPI)—President Truman today voiced his "deep sorrow" over the death of Australian Prime Minister John Curtin.

The President said Curtin was

SPAATZ TO HEAD AIR ATTACKS ON JAPAN

(Continued From Page One)

so badly battered they are no longer primary targets.

Superfortresses, he noted, now are engaged in attacking Japan's secondary cities, at least 40 in number. Ten such cities were attacked during the past week.

He listed the six large industrial cities, a great part of whose industrial value has been destroyed, as Tokyo, Kobe, Nagoya, Osaka, Yokohama, and Kawasaki.

Five B-29's Lost

During the past week more than 12,000 tons of incendiary and demolition bombs were carried on more than 1700 sorties against Japan.

That represented almost one-third the tonnage dropped during the entire month of June. July tonnage was expected to be 50 per cent greater than June's.

Five B-29's were lost from all causes during the past week, a loss rate on the basis of sorties of less than one-half of one per cent, Patterson said.

He said the allies already are pumping oil from the oilfields at Tarakan, Borneo, which may be used for bunkers without refining. He said the oil refineries, tanks and cracking plants at Balikpapan, recently seized by the Australians, were largely destroyed in the preliminary bombardment while about 60 per cent of the city itself was destroyed.

Patterson said the oil resources of Borneo will be useful, but he warned that measured against the total consumption of this country they are not large.

"Don't go burning a lot of gas because of our successes in Borneo," he warned.

ing an easy target for thousands of incendiary bombs. Smoke and flames shot 15,000 feet into the air over the stricken cities as the gasoline bombs caught hold in the flimsy buildings below.

Returning Superfortress crews said all four targets were "burning like all the fires of Hell had broken loose."

In Tokyo Area

Hours later, two big fleets of army, navy and marine planes struck in broad daylight at the Japanese suicide plane bases on southern Kyushu and along the east coast of Honshu on the outer fringe of the Tokyo metropolitan area.

The Tokyo raiders, about 120 strong, ripped up six enemy airfields, radio stations and merchant vessels with machine guns and rockets, destroying eight enemy planes on the ground and one aloft.

The six fields, forming the outer air defense of Tokyo, were strangely deserted, suggesting the Japanese might have stripped their capital's fields to cover invasion-threatened Kyushu.

Two of the main Kyushu bases took a terrific pounding from another 120-odd American fighters and bombers, including a force of Mitchell medium bombers operating from Okinawa.

Meanwhile, blocking American planes ranged over a wide area of the east China sea and the Yellow sea, sinking or damaging 32 more enemy ships, including two destroyers bagged in an attack on a Japanese convoy off the mouth of the Yangtze river near Shanghai.

RATION CALENDAR

MEAT—Red Stamps X2 through P2 are valid through July 31. Q2 through U2 valid through Aug. 31. V2 through Z2 good through Sept. 30. Stamps A1 through E1 are valid through Oct. 31. Meat dealers will pay two red points and 4 cents for each pound of waste fat.

SUGAR—Stamp 36 good for five pounds through Aug. 31.

Canning sugar forms are available at ration boards. Spare Stamp 13 in Book 4 must be submitted with application for each person listed. All applicants must establish eligibility for canning sugar.

SHOES—No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 "splices" stamps in Book 3 good for one gallon; R2 and R3 each good for five gallons.

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GASOLINE—A16 is good for six gallons; B7 and C7 and B8 and C8 are good; E2 and E3 each good for one gallon; R2 and R3 each good for five gallons.

SHOES—No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3 "splices" stamps in Book 3 good for one gallon; R2 and R3 each good for five gallons.

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SAYS G. I.'S RODE IN DIRTY TRAINS

Pete DePaola Says Vermin Plagued Redeployment.

(Continued From Page One)

Washington announced that an investigation had been started and pointed our regulations forbade use of Pullmans for war prisoners, who were not enough sleeping cars for all servicemen being moved cross-country.

Buford said railroad executives will meet sometime this week with army and office of defense transportation officials to try to provide service personnel with more adequate railroad facilities.

Congressmen Aroused

The cars used by DePaola's group were said by west coast officials to have been day coaches usually plying between Boston and New York but Buford disclaimed knowledge of any New York-Boston equipment with the limited plumbing facilities the soldiers described.

It is possible, however, Buford said, that the coaches were from shortline railroads in the New York-Boston area.

Meanwhile, three members of the California congressional delegation in Washington urged better accommodations for "returning war heroes" and an investigation by the house military affairs committee.

Alaska Air Chief



New commander of the 11th air force in Alaska and the Aleutian Islands is Maj. Gen. John B. Brooks, above, former commanding general of the Newfoundland base command.

27 MILLION IN BRITAIN VOTING

Churchill Closes Bitter Re-election Fight.

(Continued From Page One)

his campaign before a crowd of 1500 persons at Bethnal Green, where he denounced the conservatives for injecting "bogies" into the election.

"We are asking that, for the first time in the history of Britain, a working class party should be given power to carry out a policy that puts the interests of the common man first," said Attlee.

Predictions on the outcome were a dime a dozen, but most London newspapers shied away from making any detailed forecasts on the composition of the next parliament.

Conservatives See Close Race

Even the most optimistic Conservatives in their pre-election forecasts were expecting to win a bare majority of the 640 seats in com-

Other parties saw the likelihood that the Laborite, Liberal, and Commonwealth and Communist candidates, plus a sprinkling of anti-Churchill independents, would come up with a majority in the house, making it very nearly impossible for the Churchill government to continue.

To control commons, the Conservatives had to win at least 345 seats, which would give them a working majority of about 50 votes over the combined opposition.

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