

Japs' Own Code Sent Yamamoto To His Death In Daring U. S. Raid

By SANDOR S. KLEIN
United Press Staff Correspondent
WASHINGTON, Sept. 10.—American code experts deciphered Japanese radio military messages and made possible a daring air ambush that brought a sudden, fiery death to Japanese Adm. Isoroku Yamamoto.

Yamamoto once boasted he would dictate peace terms to the United States from the White House. Sixteen months after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Yamamoto's plane was ambushed and destroyed just as it was preparing to land on a strip at either Ballale Island or a near-



Adm. Yamamoto

by Shortland Island in the northern Solomons.

THE MANNER of Yamamoto's death has been one of the most closely guarded secrets of the Pacific war.

The American ambush was carried out by a group of army fliers attached to the marine fighter command then operating from Guadalcanal.

There were two reasons why the story could not be told before. First, the United States did not want to tip off the Japanese how our forces knew that Yamamoto was en route to the northern

Solomons and the time of his arrival.

Second, one of the participants in the American ambush had a brother who was held prisoner by the Japanese and it was feared the enemy might take its wrath out on him.

YAMAMOTO had flown from Truk to Rabaul on New Britain Island. From there he headed for Shortland Island, just off the southern tip of Bougainville.

The knowledge about Yamamoto's movements came from two sources. The Japanese radio was one. The enemy code had been

broken by American experts and a message about Yamamoto was one of many decoded. In addition, Australian watchers, stationed in the jungles of the northern Solomons in the heart of Japanese-occupied territory, provided progress reports on his flight.

THE JAPANESE never suspected the source of the American information and made no effort to change their code for many months after the incident. Yamamoto flew in a bomber. Other members of his staff rode in another bomber and the two

bigger planes were escorted by 20 zero fighters.

The Americans waited patiently for the order to take off. When it came, they skimmed out over the water at what was described as "dangerously low altitude" and headed for their quarry in what up to then was the longest planned interception mission ever attempted. The low flying evidently was designed to avoid detection by enemy search radar.

JUST BEFORE they reached their destination, part of the American air formation roared up at an altitude of nearly 20,000

feet. Other planes went to a moderate altitude. Their job was to lure the escorting zeros away.

The Japanese however, made the task easier than those who planned the daring venture had hoped. As the Japanese formation swung around for a landing, 14 of the escorting zeros veered off and flew away, evidently assuming that their job of protection was done.

Suddenly, from the clouds above the American pilots zoomed down on Yamamoto's group.

ROARING down in a power dive, one of the American pilots

headed for the leading bomber, presumably the one in which Yamamoto was riding. His marksmanship was perfect. In a matter of seconds, the bomber crashed in flames.

Meanwhile, another American who also dove from the clouds, streaked for the other bomber. He struck fiercely and at such close range that fragments from the exploding bomber lodged in the wings of his plane.

Efforts of other American planes to lure the six escorting Zeros away were unavailing. Instead, the Zeros attacked violently. Four of the Jap escorts and another

enemy bomber were shot down by the American pilots.

THEIR JOB done, the Americans scooted from the scene as fast as they could go. On the way back, one of them ran into another Japanese bomber and a Zero. He hit the bomber and shot down the Zero.

The only announcement ever made by the Japanese about Yamamoto's death was that he was killed in action. Nothing was said of the circumstances.

All of the army fliers who participated in the venture were subsequently decorated by the navy.

MILLIONTH MAN ARRIVES HOME

Distinction Goes to Medic Of 35th Division.

NEW YORK, Sept. 10 (U. P.).—The millionth man to be redeployed from Le Havre, France, since V-E day came home today aboard the giant liner, the Queen Mary.

He left behind him in Coventry, England, his bride of 10 days.

He was Pvt. Almon N. Conger, 24, of Tacoma, Wash., a member of the 35th division, President Truman's outfit in the first world war. Most of the 35th division was on the liner.

Conger, a tall, blond combat medic, wore the distinguished service cross and the purple heart. He said he had been told before he left Le Havre that he would be the millionth serviceman to return.

"It knocked me over," he said. "I'm very happy to come home."

He was married in Coventry, on Aug. 30. He said he was looking forward to the time when his bride would join him.

Hoosier in Command

Maj. Gen. Paul W. Baade, Ft. Wayne, commanding general of the 35th, swung a blackthorn cane which was cut from a Normandy hedgerow and bore the carved names of his division's battles.

Baade received a message from President Truman welcoming the division.

"You have earned the everlasting gratitude of us all," the President's message said in part. "God grant that we may make better use of this crusade than we did of the other."

The division, originally scheduled for redeployment to the Pacific, will reassemble after leave at Camp Eberkridge, Ky. Its future plans are uncertain, officers said.

The Queen Mary was one of six troopships bringing home more than 20,000 troops.

Five Transports Bring 5582 Troops

BOSTON, Sept. 10 (U. P.).—Five transports bearing a total of 5582 veterans of the European war theater docked here today.

The ships were the Marine Devil with 2937 troops, the Sea Owl with 2560, the Felipe Mazzei with 27, the Daniel Drake with 31 and the John Ireland with 27.

Among the Marine Devil's passengers were special troops of the 45th infantry, the 700th ordnance light maintenance company, the 45th quartermaster company, the regimental headquarters and headquarters company of the 157th infantry, service, anti-tank and cannon companies of the 157th infantry regiment, a medical detachment of the 157th infantry regiment, the 120th engineer combat battalion and the 45th cavalry reconnaissance troop.

Aboard the Sea Owl were the headquarters and headquarters company of the 45th division, the 1st and 2d battalions of the 45th division's 157th infantry regiment and the 45th division's 195th photo interpreter team.

The John Ireland carried a security detachment of the 1888th engineer battalion. Miscellaneous military personnel were on the other two transports.

SAYS TAX ON FURS ON THROUGH WINTER

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10 (U. P.).—Wives who have been badgering their husbands to buy them fur coats today received unexpected help from Chairman Walter F. George (D. Ga.) of the senate finance committee.

George said the 30 per cent tax on furs would not be removed until after this winter. People who may have delayed buying furs in hopes of avoiding this tax might as well go ahead and buy them now if they expect to keep warm this winter, he said.

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Scotts for Dense Shade—
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Yanks in Tokyo Don't See How Japs Could Hope to Win War

By SIDNEY B. WHIPPLE
Scripps-Howard War Correspondent
TOKYO, Sept. 10.—The most common reaction among the G. I.s now swarming the streets of Tokyo is:

"How in the hell did these people ever expect to win the war?"

It's not only the terrible effects of our pinpoint bombing which knocked out every factory, large and small, between here and Yokohama.

It is also the general poverty and lack of everything we regard as essential to daily life.

It's the down-at-the-heels appearance here of our thousands of motor vehicles and other mechanical equipment.

The difference in stature of our men and Nippon's finest also impresses our G. I.s.

It was easy to draw the contrast when the magnificent first cavalry marched to the American embassy as a guard of honor. A Jap interpreter said: "These people say you are a race of giants."

JAP FLIERS HAD SUICIDE PLANS

All Planes Were to Meet Allied Invasion.

By DON CASWELL
United Press Staff Correspondent
TOKYO, Sept. 10.—The Japanese army and navy planned to use all their planes—between 8000 and 9000—in a tremendous suicide offensive when American troops invaded the homeland, Japanese airforce leaders revealed today.

Gen. Shozo Kawabe, commander of the Japanese airforce, was to lead the attack against the invasion fleet.

Lt. Gen. Name Tazoe, Kawabe's chief of staff, said proudly: "I was going to fly myself. I am no pilot, but I was going to take part."

Kawabe and Tazoe revealed that the Japanese hoped to send planes in waves, with 500 striking every hour. They expected at least one out of every four planes to get through for a successful attack.

In statements made partly to representatives of the United States air forces and partly to correspondents, the Japanese said they had expected American landings on southern Kyushu in late September, or early October, and another landing on Honshu next winter.

American Guess Right

High American airmen had predicted in Washington a month ago that the Japanese were hoarding all their planes for a desperate final assault against the invasion fleet.

The Japanese generals said they had planned to use everything with wings in the attack, including trainer planes.

"We hoped to achieve results which would enable our land forces to win the war," said Tazoe.

Both Tazoe and Kawabe today said they still considered that they were winning the war at the finish, and could have kept going. Asked why they had quit, they replied: "We were ordered to do so by the emperor."

There was mounting evidence that many other Japanese military men shared this view and resented the calling off of hostilities.

Tokyo residents reported that sporadic revolts by small units of disgruntled soldiers broke out during the two weeks between Emperor Hirohito's surrender broadcast on Aug. 15 and Gen. Douglas MacArthur's arrival in Japan on Aug. 30.

The disorders never grew into a general rebellion, these informants said, but there were scattered demonstrations of opposition to the surrender.

INJURIES FATAL

PLYMOUTH, Sept. 10 (U. P.).—Services were arranged today for Archie Gage, 50, a farmer, who was injured fatally Saturday when a tractor overturned on him. Survivors included his widow, three brothers and a sister.

CONGRESS PUSHES PEARL HARBOR PROBE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 10 (U. P.).—Navy disclosure that it has offered Rear Adm. Husband E. Kimmel an open trial by court martial has not dampened congressional enthusiasm for a full dress investigation of the Pearl Harbor disaster.

Secretary of Navy James E. Forrestal said in a letter to Chairman David I. Walsh (D. Mass.), of the senate naval affairs committee that Kimmel, navy commander at Pearl Harbor at the time of the sneak Japanese attack on Dec. 7, 1941, had been offered an open trial by court martial.

He also informed Walsh that he thought some of the navy's information relating to the disaster should still remain a secret but left it up to congress to decide.

Yanks Cheered by Happy Shanghai Crowds

By WILLIAM H. NEWTON
Scripps-Howard Special Writer
SHANGHAI, Sept. 10.—To fly from ruined, dreary Tokyo to shining, happy Shanghai is to see the grim and terrible contrast between victory and defeat.

Sullen Jap soldiers, still fully armed, patrol the streets of China's biggest cities. But they do not interfere with anyone.

Many of them will not realize how thoroughly defeated Japan was until they return to the burned wreckage of their own capital.

There are parades, flags, bands and thunderous cheers and hand-clapping for Americans here whenever they appear on the streets.

Chinese children run up and grasp your hands and pull at your clothes.

In a hotel a white-haired English woman rushed across the lobby and

threw her arms around a G. I., saying over and over, "I just want to touch an American."

Out from cellars and other hiding places come real Scotch, food, silks and other luxuries which had been concealed from the Japs. The almost worthless "puppet" money creates the craziest inflation ever seen in China—and that's saying something.

It costs \$100,000 in puppet money for a meal, \$40,000 for a glass of beer, and \$20,000 for a short ride in a rickshaw. The exchange rate is about one cent U. S. for \$1000 local money. Food is plentiful—fine sirloin steaks in the hotels and restaurants.

Nanking, the peacetime capital of China, still is patrolled by thousands of Japs, sullen and bitter. Some of them are busy looting houses and carrying away furniture

in trucks to sell on the black market.

The business section is largely undamaged by war. Shops are frantically disposing of Jap-made articles at give-away prices.

Nanking is off limits to American G. I.s, who are outnumbered there about 20,000 to one by the armed Japs. The American army authorities are making strenuous efforts to prevent Americans from going into the city souvenir hunting.

But such a ban is almost impossible to enforce. A G. I. intends to get his souvenirs.

LOCAL VETERAN WINS SILVER STAR

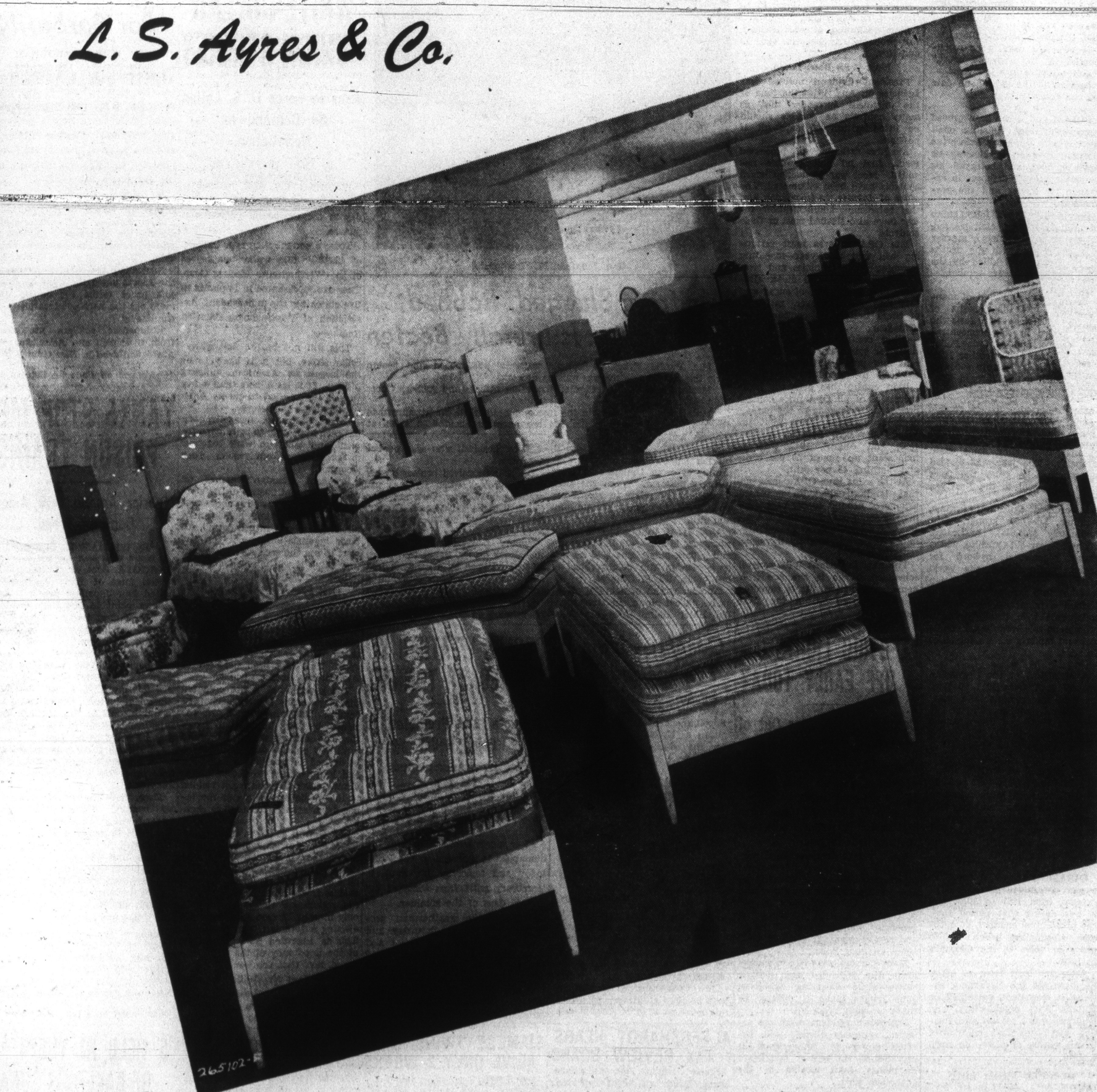
First Lt. Fred M. Fehsenfeld, veteran P-51 Mustang fighter bomber pilot, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Fehsenfeld, 3074 N. Pennsylvania st., had been awarded the silver star.

The presentation was made by Maj. Gen. O. P. Weyland, commanding officer of the 9th air force "for gallantry in action against the enemy on April 18."

Lt. Fehsenfeld led his flight in an attack against a superior force of enemy fighters, and aided in the destruction of the entire enemy force.

The officer is a member of the famed 354th Pioneer Mustang fighter group of the 9th air force, and is now in California awaiting discharge.

He was a student at Purdue university prior to entering the service in December, 1942.



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MONDAY, JAP IMP OFFICES MacArthur's Set Up (Continued) of the 27th divi war, 45 miles along with Sagan Three hundred tered Hirasuka, of Tokyo, to an pation probably other 3000 men broadcasts said and Odawara Tokyo-Nagoya way. Army W Effect of the Imperial headq prive the Japa the process of disarmament—c and central pil It was exac United States Pacific had b Americans in a divided into s bands. The re to facilitate di can now be ha commande through a Tok As late as la quarters har mobilization a Japanese troo smoothly and about Oct. 10. First Ar The first ne scored by the pared by the said that "A mitted amaz added that "t a change for Tokyo righ "news" prepar even allied o reported alleg assault, m lence by Amer MacArthur time being, i be primarily o entertainment that "news co formalonal limited to the dio Tokyo stu Only It was ex present only, be censored, cities have n because virtu originates i newspapers o other cities v The MacAr one of the su discussed by press were ments which leased offica criticism of rumors." Simultaneo quarters rele American tro ing some the ule transmits and Tokyo r (It was pol of the occup mishara, and today by Tok In the cen Arthur reite be no restri freedom of Free "The sup allied power directive, "t solute minin freedom of cussion of future of Jap allied power is harmful to emerge fr tion, entitle peace-loving Joint arm up the stan Katayama southeast e and the K the east co sula southe MacArthur no policy no untowa ported. Set Other dev 1. MacAr must respec sonal right and carry duties "w lence and sion." 2. The St 9008 allied liberated, ready have 3. Radio mineweep clearing w Sasebo n Kyushu w land after eleased. 4. Offic Pacific fle spect Jap Ominato Honshu fo render of 5. Korea announced tain Japa in office 1 American landed. 6. Adm. mander o sailed from ship, the King, whe ficial Jap uled for 7. Adm. supreme o Asia, Jef Kandy for Japanese Wednesday. 8. Austr ordered I Japanese ing and t tomorrow.