

# 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 he would dictate peace terms to the United States from the White House, Six 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 nearby



## 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 blackthorne 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 Blydenridge, 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 Mazzel 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 185th photo interpreter team.

The John Ireland carried a security detachment of the 189th 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 20 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.

by Shortland island in the north Solomons and the time of his arrival.

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

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 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 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.

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

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.

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

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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.

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

It's the down-at-the-heels appearance when the magnificently dressed 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."

It's the ramshackle, charcoal-burning automobile which break down every two blocks.

It's the shoeless, tattered remnants of the industrial population now wandering jobless and aimless through the countryside.

A single giant bulldozer at work clearing off site for an American

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 general 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 keep going. Asked why they had quit,