

U.S.S. MIAMI

RADIO PRESS NEWS

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 1944.

UNDATED PACIFIC WAR: A DARING U.S. CARRIER FORCE FOR 3 DAYS WITHIN 1500 MILES OF TOKYO CUT A WIDE SWATH IN JAPAN'S DWINDLING SEA AND AIR POWER SINKING 13 SHIPS, DAMAGING 16 OTHERS AND DESTROYING 141 PLANES, WITH A LOSS OF ONLY 15 AMERICAN AIRCRAFT. THIS ACTION CENTERING IN AND NEAR THE MARIANAS ISLANDS, WAS ANNOUNCED TODAY BY ADMIRAL CHESTER W. NIMITZ, SUPREME COMMANDER OF THE MID-PACIFIC AREA. IT EXTENDED FROM LAST SATURDAY THROUGH MONDAY. MEANWHILE IN NEW GUINEA, MOKMER AIRDROME, ON BIAK ISLAND IN THE SCHOUTEN GROUP, HAS BEEN PUT INTO OPERATION, GENERAL DOUGLAS MACARTHUR ANNOUNCED. MOKMER STRIP IS APPROXIMATELY 880 MILES FROM THE PHILIPPINE'S CLOSEST POINT TO THAT ENEMY STRONGHOLD NOW HELD BY THE ALLIES. STEALING INTO THE SOUTHERN MARIANAS, THE POWERFUL CARRIER FORCE LOOSED IT'S PLANES IN A DEVASTATING ATTACK SATURDAY ON GUAM, SAIPAN AND TINIAN ISLANDS. THE ASSAULT STIRRED UP A HORNET'S NEST OF RESISTANCE AS THE ENEMY SENT SCORES OF FIGHTERS ALOFT TO CONTEST THE STRIKE. NAVY HELLCAT FIGHTERS TIED INTO THE ENEMY ALL OVER THE SKY AS OTHER PLANES BOMBED AND STRAFED GROUND OBJECTIVES. A TOTAL OF 124 JAPANESE PLANES WAS DESTROYED THAT DAY, MOSTLY IN AERIAL COMBAT. 11 HELLCAT FIGHTERS AND 8 PILOTS WERE LOST. AFTER NIGHTFALL A HANDFULL OF ENEMY PLANES APPROACHED THE TASK FORCE, READYING IT'S GUNS AND PLANES FOR THE SECOND DAY OF THE ASSAULT. THEY FAILED TO PRESS HOME AN ATTACK, HOWEVER, AND ONE OF THEM WAS SHOT DOWN BY SHIP'S ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE. AIRCRAFT OF THE CARRIER FORCE ATTACKED AGAIN SUNDAY AT THE SAME PLACE AND EXTENDED THE ATTACK TO ROTA ISLAND. 16 MORE NIPPONESE PLANES WERE DESTROYED. 2 SMALL CARGO SHIPS WERE SUNK AT SAIPAN, LARGEST ENEMY HARBOR IN THE MARIANAS, AND A SMALL OILER WAS SENT TO THE BOTTOM NORTHWEST OF THE ISLAND. A FORMATION OF JAPANESE SHIPS ATTEMPTING TO FLEE FROM SAIPAN WAS SURPRISED AND 10 SUNK AND ANOTHER 10 DAMAGED. THOSE SUNK WERE A LARGE OILER, A DESTROYER, 3 CORVETTES, 1 LARGE CARGO VESSEL, 1 MEDIUM CARGO, AND 3 SMALL CARGO SHIPS. DAMAGED WERE 5 MEDIUM CARGOERS AND 5 ESCORT VESSELS OF UNIDENTIFIED TYPE. A SECOND FORMATION OF ENEMY SHIPS WAS SPOTTED MONDAY SEVERAL HUNDRED MILES AWAY, AND AGAIN THE NAVY AIRCRAFT SWOOPED TO THE ATTACK AND HEAVILY DAMAGED 6 MORE VESSELS, APPARENTLY ALL THAT WERE IN THE CONVOY. THEY WERE A DESTROYER ESCORT, 3 DESTROYERS AND 2 CARGO CRAFT.



EISENHOWER, SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER, IN RESPONSE TO HIS HAILED FIGHTING COMMANDERS AND TROOPS SAID THAT "THE ACCOMPLISHMENT IN THE FIRST 7 DAYS OF THE CAMPAIGN HAVE EXCEEDED MY HIGHEST HOPES."

LONDON: PRIME MINISTER CHURCHILL IN A UNITED NATIONS DAY MESSAGE DECLARED TUESDAY NIGHT THAT AS FINAL VICTORY IS APPROACHED IT IS FITTING "WE SHOULD EMPHASIZE UNITY, WHICH ALONE CAN MAKE IT POSSIBLE."

SUPREME H.Q. ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE: CAREFULLY STUDIED REPORTS REACHING HERE FROM THE CONTINENT TUESDAY NIGHT INDICATED THAT SOME WEAKNESSES HAVE BEGUN TO APPEAR IN HITLER'S WAR MACHINE UNDER THE IMPACT OF THE FIRST WEEK OF ALLIED INVASION. ONE INDICATION OF THIS IS A NEW QUARREL RELIABLY REPORTED TO HAVE BROKEN OUT BETWEEN MARSHALL ROMMEL, IMMEDIATE COMMANDER OF THE DEFENDING FORCES, AND HIS SUPERIOR MARSHAL KARL VON RUNDSTEDT, ALTHOUGH REPORTS THAT ROMMEL HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM HIS COMMAND WERE RECEIVED HERE WITH SKEPTICISM.

LONDON: FINNISH TROOPS WASTED FIERCE, BUT APPARENTLY FUTILE, RESISTANCE AGAINST THE SLEDGEHAMMER OFFENSIVE ON THE KARELIAN ISTHMUS TUESDAY. THEIR MOBILE LIGHT ARTILLERY LITTLE MATCH FOR THE TERRIFIC GUNFIRE PROVIDED FOR THE ADVANCING RED ARMY, AND IT WAS PREDICTED HERE THAT THE FINNS MIGHT BE DEFEATED BY JULY 1ST.

LONDON: GENERAL DEGAULLE TUESDAY WON RECOGNITION OF HIS COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION AS THE "PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC" FROM 4 GOVERNMENTS IN EXILE. POLAND, BELGIUM, CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND LUXEMBOURGH ANNOUNCED THEIR ACTIONS AND THE FRENCH LEADER WAS SEEKING THE SAME RECOGNITION FROM ALL UNITED NATIONS.

WASHINGTON: IN A HEATED SENATE DEBATE ON FOREIGN POLICY, SENATOR HATCH DECLARED TUESDAY THAT PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT IS "READY TO SACRIFICE HIS POLITICAL LIFE" IF THAT WOULD BRING AMERICAN UNITY BEHIND PEACE AIMS. BUT THE DEMOCRATS WOULD NOT PERMIT HIM TO RETIRE. HATCH ADDED, THE NEW MEXICAN ASSERTED THAT THE REPUBLICANS HAVE A RECORD OF REPUDIATING PROPOSALS FOR AN ASSOCIATION OF NATIONS

IRUN, SPAIN: FRENCH PATRIOTS HAVE SEIZED THE WHOLE CITY OF TARBES, CAPITOL OF THE UPPER PYRENEES DEPARTMENT AND TAKEN 300 GERMAN PRISONERS, FRENCH MEN AND OTHER TRAVELLERS SAID TUESDAY.

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