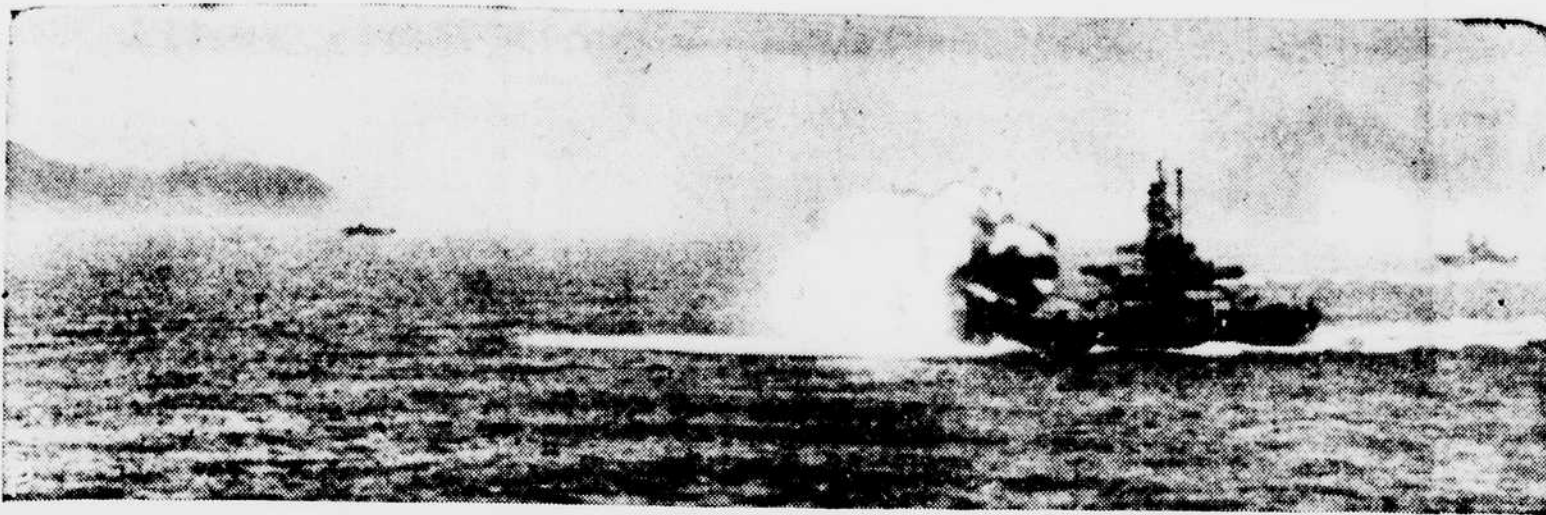


RECORD AIR RAID ON JAPAN CONTINUING

MIGHTY U.S. BATTLESHIPS SHELLING JAP HOMELAND



A HUGE BALL OF SMOKE AND FLAME SPURT FROM THE BIG GUNS OF A U. S. BATTLESHIP AS SHE POURS SHELLS INTO JAPAN

Flouting their power, American fleet units are making a regular practice of steaming right up to the shores of Japan and letting go with their huge guns at strategic enemy targets located along the coastline. Pictured in this photo just released by the Navy is one task force that

moved in so close to a Jap home island that a hilly peninsula was distinctly visible as our warships poured salvo after salvo on to Japan's "sacred soil" (International).

Japs Unable To Resist U. S. Blows

Fires Started Are Visible 180 Miles From Points Struck

Guam, Aug. 2.—(AP)—Solid sheets of flame visible more than 180 miles blanketed four Japanese cities and a huge oil refinery center today as a great fleet of 820 B-29s smashed Japan with 6,632 tons of bombs and mines in the greatest air raid in history.

"The sight was incredible—beyond description," declared Sergeant Lester Sharpe, of Kansas City, Kans., as jubilant crews returned to their Marianas bases.

Fast little fighter planes carried on the attack as the Superforts winged home. Simultaneously, reports from Admiral Nimitz and Tokyo radio told of submarine and warship bombardments on either side of Tokyo, the shelling of Wake Island and a daring rescue on a Japanese-held Marshall Islands atoll.

"They knew we were coming, but they didn't do anything about it," said a major from Springfield, Ohio. "We buzzed in and bombed, then barreled out with practically no opposition. General Lemay was right, the Japs are flat on their backs."

Of the attack on four industrial cities, three rail and one aluminum centers, the pilots said:

"Bombing was good to excellent." It was the same against the Kawasaki petroleum area near Tokyo.

Some of the Superforts carried out the deepest mining operation of the Pacific war, reaching almost to the Russian border.

Sixty Mustang fighter planes lashed Osaka, Japan's second city, and nearby Kobe, its principal seaport and shipbuilding center, at noon. Radio Tokyo reported, sixty more Mustangs hit factories and transportation in another area, but poor reception of the enemy broadcast garbled the name of the district.

Radio Tokyo reported that Allied carrier planes and warships bombed O island, 70 miles south of Tokyo, in the Sagami Sea, yesterday, indicating Admiral Halsey's third fleet had resumed its attacks on the homeland after more than two days of official silence on its activities.

B-29 pilots reported general conflagrations were raging on all of today's targets. Both fighter opposition and anti-aircraft fire were "none to moderate."

The total bomb and mine load of 6,632 tons was reported to be the world's greatest. It compared with 6,400 tons cascaded on Normandy on Europe's D-Day. The raid also established several B-29 records, including both the total participating and the tonnage. Greatest previous Superfort raid involved 625 of the sky giants, and some 4,500 tons of bombs. The raid today put 9,000 airmen over the homeland and required the services of 45,000 ground crewmen—a total of 54,000—to establish new records.

Elsewhere in the Pacific, little Wake Island bombed into the news as Admiral Nimitz reported Pacific carrier planes, and a battleship, bombed and shelled enemy installations there yesterday. Results were not reported.

Truman Meets With King George VI And Begins Trip Home

Ickes Testifying



SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR and Fuel Administrator Harold Ickes, shown testifying before the Senate War Investigating Committee in Washington, warned that the U. S. faces the coldest winter of the war unless the Army releases its enlisted coal miners. (International)

President Lunches On British Warship As Guest Of King

With President Truman, Aug. 2.—(AP)—President Truman headed back to the United States today, stopping at Plymouth for a 20-minute talk with King George VI, as the big three's Berlin declaration was drawn up for release to the world tonight.

Mr. Truman had lunch with the British monarch aboard His Majesty's ship Renown, lying off the war-battered port of Plymouth. The king arranged to visit the President later aboard the U. S. S. Augusta, the cruiser which brought him to Europe.

The British monarch and the first American President to visit Britain since President Wilson's visit after World War I met aboard the battle cruiser at 12.40 p. m. (7:40 a. m. EDT).

"Welcome to my country," the king said.

The President and the king shook hands with cordiality and stood chatting while clapping hands.

Mr. Truman wore a light gray lounge suit with a red overcoat, brown shoes and a light gray hat.

He made the visit to the Renown after boarding the U. S. cruiser Augusta, which had brought him to Europe for the big three conference at Potsdam.

Hundreds of persons gathered at the docks of this bomb-scarred old port on the chance of seeing the President on his arrival by plane from Potsdam. But a last-minute change of landing plans robbed them of the opportunity. Because of living conditions, President Truman and his party landed at an RAF field about 12 miles north of Plymouth. They had been scheduled to land at a field 40 miles to the west. U. S. Army automobiles waiting at the latter field scurried to the airfield where the President's plane came in.

Mr. Truman's inspection of the bomb damage at the port then went to the U. S. naval base and embarked on a barge for the Augusta. He missed the lord mayor of Plymouth and other officials waiting for him at the dock.

The king had arrived in Plymouth by special royal train at 10:30 a. m. and was welcomed by the lord mayor. He went aboard the Renown fifteen minutes later.

Along Mr. Truman's route from the picturesque village of Yelverton, near the airfield where he landed, many motorists waited in their cars to see the President speed by. At one point an elderly man held a sign on which he had chalked: "Good luck, Mr. President."

While Mr. Truman was going by on the barge, headed for the Augusta, he was afforded an excellent view of the ancient port, including the historic Mayflower steps where the Pilgrims boarded the Mayflower for their trip to America.

The President, with Secretary of State Byrnes and Admiral William D. Leahy, boarded the Renown from a bright green barge flying the presidential flag. The king waited at the rail with the Earl of Halifax, British ambassador to the United States, and officers of the battle cruiser. The President's party was piped aboard.

Mr. Truman stood hatless at attention at the top of the ladder while Royan Marines played "The Star Spangled Banner."

He and the king chatted on the quarter deck and then the President inspected the guard of honor.

After Mr. Truman introduced members of his party to the king, he and the monarch went into the admirals' quarters and chatted privately for twenty minutes before luncheon.

Famous Composer Of Italy Dies At Quarters In Rome

Rome, Aug. 2.—(AP)—Pietro Mascagni, 82, famous composer of Cavalleria Rusticana and other operas, died at 7:15 a. m. today of bronchial pneumonia and hardening of the arteries.

Mascagni died at the Plaza hotel, where he had made his home recently. He leaves a 28-year-old widow.

The composer had a long and brilliant career and had reaped a large fortune in royalties from his operas. He had been hit hard by the war, however. His home was seized by the Fascists after the Germans were driven from Rome. His fortune had vanished.

Silence Meets Demand For Army Cut

Report Given By Big Three

Washington, Aug. 2.—(AP)—Creation of a big five council of foreign ministers to write the peace treaty of Europe was disclosed today in the official report of the big three meeting at Potsdam.

The technical document of about 6,000 words dealt at length with European political problems and included a slap by President Truman, Prime Minister Attlee and Premier Stalin at France's government in Spain.

But it did not discuss the war against Japan.

All the document said about military matters was in these final two lines:

"During the conference there were meetings between the chiefs of staff of the three governments on military matters of common interest."

The communiqué indicated a high degree of understanding had been reached by the chiefs of the three greatest powers occupying Germany—Russia, Britain and the United States.

The problems covered ranged from a statement on political and economic principles to some broad understandings on the question of reparations.

The big three agreed that in political matters, "so far as is practicable, there shall be uniformity of treatment of the German population throughout Germany."

In economic questions, they said: "Germany shall be treated as a single economic unit" in all matters of industry, farming, trade, money, transport and communications, and reparations.

German administrative machinery is to be used to the fullest extent in carrying out these objectives, the communiqué declared, so that "it should be brought home to the German people that the responsibility for the administration of such controls and any breakdown in these controls will rest with themselves."

Further, the big three determined that German economy shall be rid of cartels, trusts and other monopolistic arrangements. All these things are to be begun under the five-power control council, which includes France.

The five-power council of foreign ministers includes these officials of Britain, Russia, China, France and the United States. Their first meeting is to be held in London by September 1. London will be the permanent headquarters of the council.

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War Department And Draft Board Are Mum

Senator Claims No Need For Retaining Great Army Forces

Washington, Aug. 2.—(AP)—The War Department and Selective Service met with tight-lipped silence today a demand of Senator Johnson that the army be scaled down from 8,000,000 to 3,000,000 men.

Targets of Johnson's caustic criticism in the Senate yesterday, both branches declined comment. Army public relations officers, however, pointed to a War Department statement of May 5 which said the general staff had recommended a force of 6,968,000 to crush Japan "in the shortest possible time and with the smallest cost in American lives."

Although Johnson told his colleagues that an Army of such size never could be used against Japan, he added to reporters later:

"There's nothing I can do about it. The Army simply won't cooperate."

The Senate's recess until October 8 is the compelling reason why nothing can be done, the senator observed, adding "the best way would be through the Army's appropriations."

"A maximum number of men that we can transport, supply and use on the Japanese front by the end of 1946 cannot be more than 3,000,000," he told the Senate. "Then why men in the name of common sense must we maintain an army of 8,000,000?"

He said Major General Lewis Hershey, director of Selective Service, "let the cat out of the bag" in a statement that 100,000 men would be drafted monthly even after V-J day.

Meanwhile, Chairman May of the House Military Committee, said a group of congressmen has been trying for several weeks "to convince the War Department that extreme hardships on the home front are facing the American people, and will result in the worst crisis in the coming winter because of the shortage of coal and perchance the lack of food."

The Kentuckian contended that thousands of uniformed men qualified to operate trains, dig coal and till the soil could be spared without detriment to the war effort, "if the Army will just let them go."

Meadows Auditor Accused Of Taking Verbal Statement

Greenville, Aug. 2.—(AP)—Solicitor D. M. Clark tried to shew today in the trial of Dr. Leon R. Meadows on charges of false pretense and embezzlement that Farnk Wall certified public accountant, accepted Dr. Meadows' verbal explanations for the expenditure of certain sums the former president of East Carolina Teachers' College is charged with converting to his own use.

Wall, on direct examination, had testified that all expenditures had been properly accounted for.

Clark, however, contended that Dr. Meadows had not satisfactorily explained his spending of special and student funds, and that Wall did not have enough evidence to support his claim.

Defense Of Petain Is Bolstered

Balked Nazi Plans Against Gibraltar; Aid From America

Paris, Aug. 2.—(AP)—General Bernard Beigny testified at the treason trial of Marshal Petain today that Hitler early in 1941 demanded Generalissimo Franco to allow Germany to send troops through Spain to attack Gibraltar.

The general, who described himself as an intimate friend of the marshal, said Franco had disclosed the demand to Petain along with the information that he had refused. Petain himself was uneasy about Spain, the witness testified. But he quoted the marshal as saying: "Franco can count on me in resisting the Germans' demand for permission to cross Spain."

As the trial started its tenth day, defense counsel read a cable signed by John A. Schaeffer, director of the National Republican Vigilance Committee of New York City, which said:

"American veterans who had the honor of serving in France under General Pershing and who have admired you through the years as a soldier and patriot, salute you in this grave hour. With abiding affection and confidence, we condemn your trial as unrepresentative of the great French people and pray that the conscience of France will compel termination of the proceedings."

There still was no announcement when Pierre Laval, chief of government in Petain's Vichy government, would be called from prison to testify.

Miners Decline To Resume Work Without Doctor

Force, Pa., Aug. 2.—(AP)—A spokesman for 350 coal miners, already idle nearly three weeks, declared today they would not return to work until a company physician is provided for them and sanitary conditions are improved in a town where children play in sewage-filled ditches.

On the other hand, Brown Lambert, general manager of the Shawmut Mining Company, said:

"Mining towns have a life expectancy of about 25 years. These towns in the Force district are old, and their lives are wearing out. It would be too expensive to equip them for modern conditions. I don't know where you'd get the pipe and labor."

Saying she was "very disgusted over the intolerable sanitary conditions," Dr. Elizabeth Hayes resigned as company doctor July 15 and threatened to move out of town. The miners walked out because they wouldn't work without medical protection. They liked "Dr. Betty's" ideas for bathtubs, running water and the sewage system "in a community that had admitted no improvement in electricity for 42 years."

Blows Upon Japan Set New Record

Washington, Aug. 2.—(AP)—The Army air forces already are hammering single air blows against Japan's home islands larger than any ever directed against the more sprawling German targets.

The record Superfortress task force which yesterday struck five of Nippon's industrial targets dropped a record tonnage of fire and demolition bombs. That tonnage was a record not only for Superfort raids but the greatest ever let loose on a single air mission. The biggest bomb load ever dropped on Europe was 4,302 tons unloaded on Germany last Christmas Eve, during the battle of the Bulge. It took 2,055 heavy bombers to handle that attack against Germany, but 820 of the giant B-29s flying from Marianas bases broke the European record by better than fifty percent.

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GRIPSHOLM BRINGS 1,496 MISSIONARIES

New York, Aug. 2.—(AP)—The exchange ship Gripsholm is due to dock at Jersey City today with 1,496 missionaries and 244 Chinese and Indian students, chiefly from the China-India area, are returning on furlough.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Partly cloudy and not much change in temperature tonight and Friday; few widely scattered evening thundershowers.

Britain Accuses Laval Of Plotting Vichy War

London, Aug. 2.—(AP)—Pierre Laval, under arrest in Paris on charges of collaboration with the Germans, was confronted today with an official British statement accusing him of plotting to involve Britain in war with the Vichy government in the fall of 1940.

The allegation against the former Vichy chief of government was made in a British white paper issued last night, while Laval was awaiting interrogation by French authorities.

The paper said Sir Samuel Hoare, the British ambassador to Madrid, had cabled the foreign office on November 4, 1940, that the French ambassador to Spain had informed him Laval was planning to use the French fleet and military units in efforts to recover French colonies which had rallied to General Charles De Gaulle.

Sir Samuel was quoted as saying in his cable: "The (French) ambassador regards the plan as not only very mean, but very clever. He agreed with me that it was carried out undoubtedly would mean war between Great Britain and Vichy."

Britain had promised to support De Gaulle, the white paper said, and if the royal navy and French fleet had come into conflict, Laval would have charged British aggression.

Sir Samuel said that the day after his conversation with the French ambassador, the British naval attaché at Madrid attempted to sound out the French naval attaché on the matter. The latter was quoted as asking: "Do I understand that if the French naval ships tried to come through the Strait of Gibraltar you would not allow them to pass?"

He was told that was correct.

Sir Samuel was quoted as saying