

THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT ON THE ENCOUNTER WITH THE ENEMY SUBMARINE LAST NIGHT IS ISSUED BY THE COMMANDING OFFICER OF THE NAVAL AIR STATION:

"At 1758 (5:58 p.m.) an enemy submarine surfaced on a bearing of 165 degrees from Sand Island distant 8,000 yards and fired two shells at Sand Island. The submarine was immediately bombed and machine gunned by two planes and submerged after being on the surface for only 45 seconds. Due to poor light conditions, damage to the sub could not be ascertained. No hits due to shell fire have been found."

Japan claims to have entered the city area of Singapore and fierce hand to hand fighting was in progress on the streets of Singapore. British sources did not confirm this report. Japanese Tanks, Bombers and Fighter planes are being used in the drive. At 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, a Japanese plane dropped a message addressed to the British Commander to make a unconditional surrender of all British forces in Malaya, but the commander did not reply. The British are destroying whatever the enemy might use. The last report received was at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Singapore time. The report indicated that the enemy was driving from the West directly on Singapore city. On the West and North-West bitter fighting continued. On the East side enemy activities were slight. The Japanese now hold 1/3 of the Western part of Singapore, while 2/3 appears to be in British hands.

General MacArthurs forces are enjoying a breathing spell. MacArthurs men are preparing for a mass enemy attack. The War Department received a report stating that a spectacular air battle took place over the Philippines in which 6 enemy planes were destroyed. One American plane failed to return to its base. The American planes engaged had been on camera reconnaissance duty and about to land when the enemy planes were spotted. Four of the enemy were immediately shot down. Another was destroyed by artillery fire. The Sixth was hit and fell out of control and crashed into the mountains.

Dutch fliers intercepted a Japanese formation of bombers enroute to bomb Soerabaja, but the formation was broken up over the Java Sea and did not reach the city.

In the Burma theatre of war the Chinese marched 1000 miles by foot and clashed with the invaders. Heavy casualties were inflicted. Location of the fighting was not disclosed. The Japanese crossed the Salween River above Martaban. The situation although critical is in hand.

A contingent of American Forces landed at a point off Dutch Guinea to assist in the defense of that island.

Washington announced a major shift in the supreme command of the Naval forces in the South West Pacific. Vice Admiral C.E.L. Halfrick of the Royal Netherlands Navy succeeded Admiral Thomas C. Hart, who had requested to be relieved because of ill health. Admiral Halfrick is 65 years old, 10 years younger than Admiral Hart.

South Eastern Tip of New Guinea Island was attacked by the Japanese.

The R.A.F. dropped bombs on enemy troop concentration in North Thailand. --The War Department received a report from General MacArthur stating that Japanese troops are using relieve supplies given to Japan by the United States for the 1923 earthquake.

--Rear Admiral Land is in charge of the great American Ship Building program. Contracts have been issued for the construction of 16 Hundred ships.

--The Red Army smashed doggedly westward. On one front the War Cry is "On into White Russia" which lies 30 miles beyond Smolensk. In Sevastopol the Nazi were thrown back a mile. 17 Thousand Germans were killed in 3 days fighting at Kalinin. 16 Hundred Germans killed on a single day on the Leningrad front. More than 1 Thousand on the Central front. The Russians knocked the Germans out of 46 more fortified points. The advance toward Smolensk continued.

--Washington heard a German Freedom Station which declared, "Why die for Hitlers fame, while you can live on his downfall." It also stated it is sure Hitler is defending a line he did not choose and is sending troops to the front which he was saving for the spring.