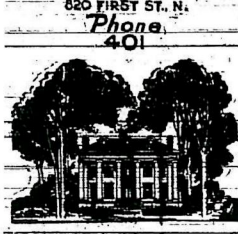


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BY LEONARD MILLIMAN
Associated Press War Editor

American invasion convoys were reported closing in on Luzon island in the Philippines today as U. S. land, sea and air forces invaded, shelled or bombed widely scattered Japanese-held keystone islands. The quickening tempo of the Pacific war brought these developments:

1. Tokyo radio reported three new allied convoys on the move in Philippine waters, including a heavily guarded invasion flotilla west of Luzon on which Manila is situated.

2. Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced the unopposed invasion and capture of Marinduque island, 12 miles south of Luzon and less than a 100 miles from Manila. It was the seventh island to be retaken in the Philippines.

3. Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced fast U. S. carrier forces destroyed 111 Japanese planes and 27 ships in their two-day raid on Formosa and the Okinawa islands, linking Japan and the Philippines. Sixty-eight other ships were damaged.

Could Refuel in Interior

4. For the first time sea-borne U. S. planes reached the China coast. They searched 500 miles of the coastline from Foochow to Hongkong and reported they could have flown on to U. S. air bases in the interior.

5. Another U. S. task force shelled major harbors on Haha Jima and Chichi Jima in the Bonin Islands, 660 miles south of Tokyo and 1,300 miles west of Formosa.

6. About 70 or 80 China-based Superforts bombed western Kyushu in the Japanese homeland, apparently hitting for the sixth time at the important Amura aircraft factory.

7. Japanese troops in southwest China recaptured Wanting, Burma-road fortress town near the Burma-China frontier.

8. The navy announced the loss of the destroyer Reid in the Philippines. The Reid, with a complement of 202, was the 51st U. S. destroyer lost in the war.

Claim Carriers Sank

9. A Japanese communique claimed two U. S. carriers, a battleship and a transport were sunk by Japanese planes attacking a convoy west of Luzon.

Presumably these ships were in the task force which the Japanese Domei news agency reported was accompanying a convoy of about 100 landing craft sighted west of Lingayen gulf, northwest of Manila and the site of the original Japanese invasion of Luzon more than four years ago.

Another large group of allied ships, including about ten converted aircraft carriers, was reported west of Panay island, presumably headed northward in the direction of Luzon and American-held Mindoro and Marinduque.

The third convoy was "sighted speeding westward in waters south of Negros island," farther back along the same route.

Tokyo radio emphasized that "the

John N. Simon Dies in Action In Luxembourg



SGT. JOHN N. SIMON

Sgt. John N. Simon, 22, son of Mr. and Mrs. Carl F. Simon, 741 Dewey street, was killed in action in Luxembourg December 17, according to a war department telegram received by the parents Thursday.

A rifleman in the infantry, Sergeant Simon was serving with the Fourth division of the First army.

He was born in Port Edwards September 5, 1923 and attended grade school there. After attending John Edwards high school as a freshman, his parents moved to Wisconsin Rapids, where he was graduated from Lincoln high school in 1940. He participated in football and hockey at Lincoln high.

The Wisconsin Rapids soldier was employed during a portion of 1941 as an announcer-operator at WFHR and then went to Ripon college. He enlisted in the army while attending Ripon December 29, 1942. After receiving 15 months of training at Fort McClellan, Ala., Sergeant Simon went overseas, arriving in England July 8, 1944.

The sergeant served in France, Belgium, Luxembourg and Germany, reached the Siegfried line September 20. He fought throughout the severe Hurtgen forest campaign. His parents last heard from him in a letter datelined December 9.

In addition to his parents, Sergeant Simon is survived by two sisters, Betsy, who is in cadet nurses' training at St. Mary's, Milwaukee, and Pat, who is a student at Lincoln high school.

Youth for Christ Rally Scheduled For January 25

JAN. 6 1945

Once again he called for "ur to "the armies of our enemies" in By total immobilization, Mr. al service act and "at the carrie

The president's message or tionwide broadcast at 9 o'clock domestic and world problems.

Broadly sketched, he made Home front: Renewed his ask later for postwar universal armed forces; urged an expande after V-E day but declared no g Fighting fronts: Disclosed t the most powerfully armed tank shall resume the attack and . . . jessly until Germany is complet about to equip large new. Erreg the nazis, but warned that the creased their U-boat activity in "complete confidence". in General

Respeaking a confident hope executive declared that while gr new year of 1945 can be the greates history."

Making the nearest thing to a f which he has thus far essayed, the pr final ending of the nazi-fascist reign o closing in of the force of retribu tion about the center of the malign- nant power of imperialistic Japan."

Most important of all, he added, "1945 can and must see the substantial beginning of the organiza tion of world peace."

It was a message on the state of the union looking back over the course of the whole war and par ticularly over the past year, which Mr. Roosevelt said had been marked on the whole by substantial prog- ress toward victory. It looked to ward the future, too, and rang with notes of confidence.

The message was read to con- gress after the counting of the elec- toral votes that gave him a fourth term in the White House.

"In the field of foreign policy," the chief executive told the legis- lators, "we propose to stand togeth- er with the united nations not for the war alone but for the victory for which the war is fought."

"It is not only a common danger which unites us but a common hope. Ours is an association not of gov- ernments but of peoples and the people's hope is peace."

He renewed a demand for "un- conditional surrender," but applied it only to "the armies of our ene- mies."

That, he said, is the first, but only the first step toward the peace we long for.

The chief executive accorded rec- ognition to differences which have arisen to plague the allies, and he pleaded for understanding.

The nearer we come to vanquish- ing the enemies, he said, the more we inevitably become conscious of differences among the victors.

Assailing any use of power poli- tics in the future world, Mr. Roose- velt declared that it "must not be See—MESSAGE—Page 2

Brief Let-Up In Cold Wave

(By the Associated Press.)
Wisconsin today enjoyed the first let-up in a week from the season's initial frigid blast and was in for more of the warmer-and-snowy touch tomorrow, but after that there's a new cold wave brewing in Canada.
It was warmer throughout the