

# Jap Island Near China Coast Falls

## Another Land Drive Opened

CHUNGKING, Aug. 8.—(AP)—Chinese troops have captured a Japanese-held island off China's east coast west of Formosa and have launched a drive in the Chinese "rice bowl" region designed to split Tokyo's transcontinental corridor to Hong Kong, the high command reported tonight.

Veteran Chinese forces also punched out new gains toward two American bases in the Chinese interior, a communique announced.

The Chinese high command said Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's troops recaptured Kueikang island at the mouth of the Min river north-east of the liberated east coast port of Fochow Sunday.

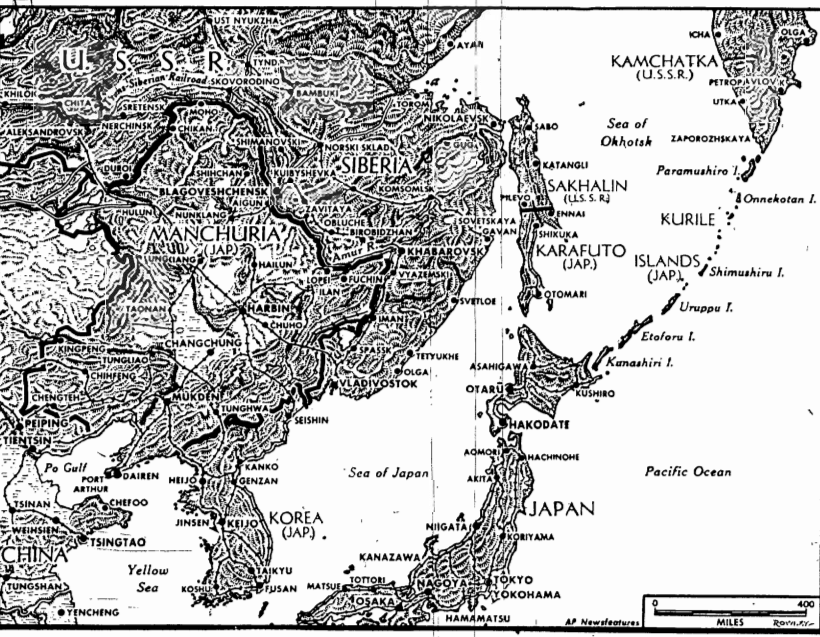
Clear the Japanese from the island, 125 miles from Formosa, the Chinese ousted the last enemy troops from the Fochow area, and moved a possible obstruction to any Allied landings in the region. The island was held only by a handful of Japanese troops, whose presence had been more of a nuisance than a threat.

In the vital "rice bowl" region south of Tungling lake, headquarters of the Japanese-led puppet government, the Chinese captured the narrow enemy land link between Korea and South China, which was used for supplies. The Japanese were reported in progress.

Clear the Japanese from the area south-west of Changsha, and into Japanese positions on the west flank of the overland corridor, the Chinese reported smashing toward Siang-sang, 58 miles northwest of the city of Hengyang.

Yung-feng, 45 miles northwest of Hengyang.

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HERE'S HOW RUSSIA LOOKS AT JAPAN ON DAY OF DECLARATION OF WAR

During most of her war with Germany, even when she was on the ropes at Moscow, Russia kept her 100-mile Manchurian border protected by an army estimated at a million men and indications are that Japan has kept about the same number along their side of the line. With the Russian declaration of war against Japan, principal action may be seen in this area. To date this super-sitzkrieg has indirectly helped Americans driving up to the heartlands of Japan since it has tied up the Japanese leaders and equipment which are needed against the allies. Recently Stalin has been busy in Siberia and it is probable that he has a large force ready to defend his territory and make invasion blows against Japanese industrial areas in Manchuria, thus helping to shorten the war in the far east.

# Russia's War Declaration Opens Final Phase Of Japanese Defeat

## Long-Dreaded Blow Climaxes Chain Of Disasters Befalling Nipponese

(By The Associated Press)

Russia's declaration of war on Japan opens the final phase of the oriental conflict and the evidence overwhelming that the end can not long be delayed.

This blow, long dreaded by Tokyo, is the climax to the long series of disasters that have marked Japan's road to ruin, the B-29's, the Philippines, UO, Okinawa and just this week that "new" atomic bomb.

Moscow's action must have it Tokyo with atomic bomb force. The calculations by the allied chiefs to continue the fight, it is difficult to see how they can keep the momentum of the war against Japanese people in line much longer.

Doubtless the psychological effect of losing the atomic bomb and the Moscow declaration so close together was shrewdly calculated by the allied chiefs in Potsdam.

# Fliers Bag 59 Vessels

## Wide Sweeps Hit Nip Fleet Hard

MANILA, Thursday, Aug. 9.—(AP)—In more than 400 sorties from Korea to Malaysia and the Indies, allied planes sank or damaged 59 ships and 36 small craft Sunday night and Monday. They also destroyed four Japanese planes, which made the only interception.

General MacArthur reported the blows in a communique which listed the Japanese merchant marine, industries, airships and military installations.

The major single raid Monday was by more than 40 Mitchells of the 5th AAF, which sank a gunboat and four small freighters, left 6,000 tons freighter burning, and damaged three small vessels. They damaged 22 other Japanese vessels, of which the major one previously had been disabled.

One bomber was lost as the medium bombers, fighters and patrol planes damaged water front, stations, bivouacs and defense lines, rolling stock and vehicles and tanks in the process.

Five Japanese planes attempted a strike on Okinawa Monday. An aircraft carrier destroyed one and probably two more.

Night patrols ranging to the Asiatic coast bombed military targets at Shanghai and industrial targets at Makino island, off southern Korea. Fighters shot down four Japanese planes while attacking air bases on Sakai island. Several freighter-search planes wrecked a freighter-transport, four river steamer off Indo-China.

Twelve freighters, eight still on the way, were destroyed or damaged on the Malay coast. Australian fighters attacked personnel and supply ships, and watercraft along the west coast of Borneo in support of Balikpapan operations.

Freighters, tankers and cargo vessels off the coast were knocked out in Makassar strait and the Molucca sea by Seventh fleet fighters. Russian warships also struck wrecked trucks and coastal installations in the Halmahera. A freighter was damaged off the Kangean Islands.

New Zealand medium and fighter-bombers cratered roadways on New Ireland, bombed and strafed Japanese positions on Bougainville and with marine planes sealed several tunnels and damaged motor transport near Rabaul.

# Atomic Bomb Wipes Out Another Japanese City

GUAM, Thursday, Aug. 9.—(AP)—Nagasaki was attacked with the world's second atomic bomb at noon today. Crew members reported good results. No further details will be available until the mission returns, General Spaatz announced in a special communique.

The first atomic bomb fell on Hiroshima Monday and wiped out 60 per cent of that city of 343,000.

Nagasaki, Japan's 12th largest city, is on Kyushu. It was raided first by B-29's on August 10 last year and was hit only July 31 and again next day by far east air force bombers and fighters from Okinawa.

This was the first time it was attacked by Marianas-based B-29's.

A total of 402 Superforts which dropped more than 2,300 tons of incendiary and demolition bombs on four major targets yesterday and early today in an almost around-the-clock blasting of Japan's war machine also achieved excellent results, Spaatz said.

General Spaatz' communique today reported general configurations raged in some targets and that "good to excellent results" were achieved at all.

# Carrier Aircraft Hit Japs Again

GUAM, Thursday, Aug. 9.—(UP)—Adm. William F. Halsey's United States Third fleet swung back into action against the Japanese homeland at dawn today, throwing more than 1,000 carrier planes against northern Honshu in a blow coinciding with Russia's declaration of war on Japan.

The attacks were continuing more than nine hours after the first British bomber raid upon the job ahead at Potsdam.

He wanted more than anything else the Russian declaration of war.

# Battle-Hardened Russia Slams Last Door On Nips

## Truman Announces Declaration; Moscow Confirms Report And Reveals Recent Nipponese Peace Feeler

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 8.—(AP)—Russia's mightily far eastern army opened hostilities against Japan at 12:10 a. m. Thursday (Russian time), launching a sudden attack along the eastern Soviet-Manchukuo border only 10 minutes after Moscow's declaration of war became effective, the enemy reported today.

A Kwangtung army headquarters communique issued today reported the attack and also announced that the red air force actively was bombing strategic points in Manchukuo territory behind Japanese lines.

Details of the attack were given but presumably the Russians would drive west from the Vladivostok region, the territory north of the Vladivostok is only about 20 miles from the Japanese fortified positions along the rugged and mountainous terrain.

Ground Forces

The communique made it clear that ground forces would be sent to attack a part of the Soviet far eastern army of more than 1,000,000 equipped troops, which never called into action against Germany but remained along the border a constant threat to Japan. Although the first communique announced opening of hostilities only late in the day, it also claimed the Russians would strike as quickly as possible from the front and would be highly vulnerable to air attack since it is so close to the border.

The whole population and most of the industries of the Soviet far east concentrated on the frontier. With the Amur and Ussuri rivers and the Trans-Siberian railway the main axis of settlements. The Russians might expect the Japanese to strike from the back of the Amur and the Ussuri as possible.

Japanese industries in Manchuria, on the other hand, are located well back of the front and would be more difficult to reach as targets—though not too difficult for modern bombing planes.

# Cream Of Jap Troops Pinned Down By Reds

## Mighty Armies Face Each Other Along Mongol Border For Years

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—(UP)—Russia has kept the cream of Japan's military machine—the crack Kwangtung army—pinned down along the outer Mongolian border for years.

There have been innumerable battles there in the past few years in which, since 1937, Russia decidedly has had the upper hand. Seasoned troops of both countries faced each other in anticipation of the official opening of hostilities.

Big Army Set

Military observers estimated that Russia's far eastern army consisted of at least 1,000,000 troops well equipped with armor and artillery, and backed by a substantial air force. Estimates of its border strength range from 300,000 to 500,000. The Russian army is believed to be seasoned veterans who have not been reported in action since the Japanese invasion in 1931.

The Japanese have about 2,000 troops spread through China, Manchuria and the border regions. The 750,000 men in Manchuria include the Kwangtung army, the best of Japanese military units, and the best of Japanese military units. The Japanese also have a tip of soviet territory south of Vladivostok to gain Pussiet bay, a strategic point of development and a harbor. The Russians won easily despite the marshy terrain.

Next Biggest Clash

The next biggest clash came in 1939 when the Japanese and the Non-Chinese frontiers. The Russian border of the Khalka was attacked by the Japanese. The Japanese Sixth army was crushed in August after five months of fighting. The command of Marshal G. G. Zhukov, the general in charge, were tens of thousands of casualties.

# Truman To Give Report Tonight

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—(UP)—President Truman tonight will give additional details of Russia's surprise declaration of war as Japan called to assembly by the Kremlin tomorrow at 10 p. m. E.W.T. for a report to the nation on the big three conference.

He also may shed new light on the atomic bomb and its effect upon Japan.

The Russian move heightened speculation that Congress may be called into session by August 9, the scheduled date, in anticipation of imminent peace. Sen. McClellan, who is expected to be at West Virginia, predicted this after a conference with Mr. Truman held before the Russian announcement.

# Truman Efforts Brought Red Declaration Of War

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—(AP)—The results were evident in his demeanor on the way back. He couldn't confide in reporters but his pleasure was evident in a neutral manner. Truman's friends reported that he preferred not to go to Berlin.

The President referred to the state war and navy departments conduct negotiations abroad with the British and the Russians.

It was the hope that he could make a final agreement for Generalissimo Stalin to throw Russia's might into the allied cause friends report that brought his decision to call the nation to arms at a time when he was in the middle of a peace conference.

He did not look forward to his job. He was skeptical about the results of the big three conference. A man can do his dead-level best, he told the reporters, "and I'm going to do that."

# Year's Cotton Crop Below 10-Year Mark

WASHINGTON, Aug. 8.—(AP)—A 1945 cotton crop of 10,154,000 bales, 17 per cent below the 1944 crop of 12,300,000 was forecast for the nation today by the department of agriculture on the basis of August 1 conditions.

The crop compares with an average production of 12,293,000 bales during the preceding 10 years.

The 1945 crop is 10 per cent below the 1944 crop of 12,300,000 was forecast for the nation today by the department of agriculture on the basis of August 1 conditions.

# The Weather

At Washington	81-90
Greenboro	78-88
Charlotte	78-87
Atlanta	78-87
Richmond	78-87
Columbia	78-87
Norfolk	78-87
Washington	78-87
Baltimore	78-87
Philadelphia	78-87
Pittsburgh	78-87
Cleveland	78-87
Chicago	78-87
St. Louis	78-87
Indianapolis	78-87
Kansas City	78-87
Denver	78-87
Portland	78-87
San Francisco	78-87
Los Angeles	78-87
Honolulu	78-87

# Uncounted Thousands Of Japs Perish In Crushing Atomic Bomb Explosion

GUAM, Thursday, Aug. 9.—(AP)—Japanese perished by uncounted thousands from the searing, crushing atomic blast that annihilated 80 per cent of the 343,000 population of Hiroshima Monday, photographic and other evidence indicated today.

Photographs showed that "practically all living things, human and animal, were literally destroyed," it reported, that authorities were still unable to check the total casualties.

The photographs showed that not even stout concrete structures in the heart of the city, presumed to have been air raid shelters, escaped. The structures still stood but apparently were burned out.

Both General Spaatz, who announced his strategic air force headquarters here that 80 per cent of Hiroshima had been "completely destroyed" and the atomic bombings had destroyed the city.

Spaatz declared that other Superforts were ready to follow the B-29 "Enola Gay" which Col. Paul W. Tibbets, Jr., of Miami, Fla., piloted over the city. Tibbets' war's newest and most devastating weapon.

Spaatz's communique, which referred to the bomb only as something new in its home broadcasts, urged the Japanese to keep their spirits firm and predicted that a defense against the bombs would be developed. Tokyo referred to the bomb as "atomic" in its foreign broadcasts.

Spaatz announced that reconnaissance photographs showed that 4.1 square miles of Hiroshima were wiped out and that the destroyed area included five major industrial targets.

The photographs disclosed that the extent of the destruction was complete.

Except for the fire-blackened concrete structures, the center of the city was utterly crushed and burned. The mighty force had smashed it.

The only section that appeared to have escaped was the harbor area. Buildings there were still standing.

Officers at B-29 headquarters who had studied the photographs estimated that the damage from the single bomb, which was described only as so small, that a fighter plane might have carried it, equalled that of an ordinary 1500 Superfort raid.

The searing, white blast, which drew men on Tibbets' plane declared was brighter than the sun, flashed across the widest firebreaks against incendiary raids.

Everything appeared to have been burned and melted down in a few furious minutes of annihilation. Fliers on the photographic plane which was over Hiroshima only a few hours after the bombing said it already was reduced to only a few small fire-disk slatted at the outskirts.

The Japanese declaration was called in an emergency session as soon as it had sufficient information from Hiroshima but there was no report that it had taken any action.