



The Rising Sun

For the Emperor's glory!

November 30th, 1941



All IJN Troops safely ashore in New Britain

Despite a regrettable loss of some transports that were being used in conjunction with the Rabaul operation on the island of New Britain, our sources can say with relief that these ships had completed their disembarkation of IJN marines onto the beaches. It is with the utmost in ill luck that the British Royal Navy timed their strike on our transports and their small destroyer screen at the very time that our carrier aircraft were in the midst of a refueling operation. By the time the refueling was completed and the airplanes scrambled to the site of the mayday calls, the British had regrettably fled, although we were able to get a few of their destroyers. Full retribution will be ours in coming months.

Again, though, we have plenty of transport and landing craft, and can always build more. The important thing is that our invaluable marine forces were unharmed, and will be fully able to prosecute the war against the Australians on the island unhindered. Surrounded, cut off from reinforcement or re-supply, and outnumbered more than 6 to 1, these troops must know that their resistance is futile and bound to be very short in duration. The British can have their minor stroke of luck this month, but our readers may rest assured that this was nothing more.



Imperial Air Units above the airfields and naval base at Rabaul

Chinese Cities Pacified

While scattered unrest persists, more Chinese cities were under full control.

Imperial Army units continue their minor redeployment to deal with increased unrest behind the lines. Many of these cities were too far from existing units to be dealt with this month, but those that had forces in range are now pacified. General Tojo expects to have the situation fully in hand by the end of the year, at the latest, as more divisions are able to reach their destination cities. "China is, as you know, a very vast region, it takes time to get units in position to be used where they are needed. This may actually prove fortuitous in the long run", he was quoted as saying, "Because we have been able to use this otherwise quiet time to revisit our procedures and methods for city garrison and anti-partisan duties. We would have had a quiet winter, once this situation is fully in hand, we'll be much better prepared to deal with this sort of organized resistance in the future."

When asked if he felt he could handle the KMT field army and maintain order in the cities, the general flashed a very confident smile and said "Yes, we are quite certain that this will not be an issue. Our offensive last year, the most successful operation in modern offensive warfare ever launched, came at a total cost to us of two infantry divisions, and the majority of those losses came in the failed first assault on the city of Ichang. If not for that operation, we would have seen almost no significant damage to even a single infantry division in China, an unprecedented achievement given the territory we gained, and the damage we inflicted on the enemy. Next year, we will have all these same forces, and many more, for the final offensive that is sure to break the KMT once and for all."

Someone then made mention of the "improved KMT equipment and training" as reported in the western news agencies, to which General Tojo again smiled broadly. "We have seen some improvement in the quality of troops and equipment the enemy has been able to put in the field. Their tactics and leadership have also shown some increase in competence. However, that is not necessarily saying a whole lot. Besides, do they honestly think the Japanese will not also field better equipment in our offensive next year as well?"



General Tojo

Prince Fumimako Disappointed by Lack of Official American Response to Recent Events

Prince Konoye Fumimako made a statement today in Tokyo, in which he noted that the government of the United States of America has had no official contact with his government regarding last month's revelations of a major espionage and sabotage by their agents operating here in Japan. "They have made no effort to contest, dispute, or otherwise contradict the findings of our counter-intelligence units in any way whatsoever. I can only conclude that they therefore are implicitly admitting guilt in these events."

I must profess utter shock at this turn of events. The United States purports itself to be a neutral power, one with a relatively strict policy of non-intervention and isolation from events outside their hemisphere.

However, this action is quite clearly not consistent with any of those policies. The Emperor can not sit idly by while his valiant armed forces are sabotaged in these most heinous and cowardly attacks. We therefore demand that the Government of the United States issue either an official apology for this action, or an official denial of it, which would then be researched."

"We have on multiple occasions professed a wish to maintain a warm friendship with the United States dating back to Commodore Perry's visit to Tokyo Bay, and continuing through their assistance in helping Japan become the major power she is today under Emperor Meiji, and on further through our successful alliance in the Second World War. We wish nothing more than profitable, amicable, and productive trade between our great nations. We both have much more to gain from each other with friendship, as opposed to animosity."

However, their current administration seems fixated upon provoking the wrath of great Japan. Why is this? We can only guess. We feel that President Roosevelt serves the interests of Winston Churchill above the safety, security, and well being of his own people."



Prince Konoye Fumimako in Tokyo.

European Front News: Leningrad in German, Finnish Hands

Moscow was once again the site of political upheaval this month, as General Georgi Zhukov, widely seen as the finest mind in the Red Army, has taken political control of the regime in an attempt to restore the order that was seemingly lost with the death of comrade Stalin. It remains to be seen if this step will work as hoped, or will further destabilize and de-legitimize the government in the Kremlin. This perceived lack of power and legitimacy is surely one of the main reasons so many Red Army troops have deserted. It is a tough sell to tell a soldier to lay down his life defending a country that has no unified leadership or continuity of rule.

The key Baltic Sea port city of Leningrad finally capitulated fully to German and Finnish (not Swedish, as erroneously reported in early reports) troops. The Red Army has pulled away from the city in an attempt to form a more defensible perimeter further into the interior of Russia. Presumably, they are stalling for time in the hopes that they be once again saved by "General Winter" as they have so many times in the past.

Elsewhere, Spain has apparently seen enough fighting for the time being. While it remains the site of the most intense fighting between British and German forces, the Spanish themselves have recused themselves from the front line fighting, apparently without bothering to notify their German allies. The Germans were totally unprepared for this sudden decision, and the continuity of their defensive lines suffered terribly as a result. It remains to be seen if this will enable to British forces acting from Portugal to make a decisive move and push the Germans back the Pyrenees. Doing so would almost surely mean the end of General Franco's government in Madrid.

The British were also able to report a moderate victory on the hotly contested Iberian peninsula. After suffering through a recent civil war, Spain has now become the primary battleground between the British and Germans. One wonders how much more fighting will be seen in this region.

In addition to their great defeat in the Mediterranean Sea, the British Royal Navy continued to take unsustainable losses in its Merchant Fleet this month, German U-Boats accounted for an estimated 150,000 tons of British Merchant shipping this month. The Luftwaffe also raided the Scottish capital city of Edinburgh in a huge night raid, damage reported as extremely heavy.



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