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FALL OF KISKA OPENS ROAD TO TOKYO • FOR YANK WAR FLEET, SAYS ADMIRAL

The Post Telephone
MAin 2121

THE WEATHER

'Tis a Privilege to Live in Colorado.
Sunday—Sun rose in Denver at 6:18 a. m. Sun sets in Denver at 7:47 p. m.
There are exactly 13 hours and 29 minutes of sunlight in Denver on Sunday, three minutes less than on Saturday.
Highest temperature in Denver Saturday, 94 degrees; lowest temperature Friday night, 63 degrees.
Denver and Vicinity (radius 20 miles)—A few scattered thundershowers Sunday afternoon; little change in temperature.

YANKS DESTROY 67 PLANES AT WEWAK

Jap Aircraft Losses at New Guinea Base Soar Over 300 Mark in Week—U. S. Bombers Attack Nickel Mines in Celebes.

Allied Headquarters in the Southwest Pacific, Aug. 22 (Sunday).—(A. P.)—Thirty-three Japanese planes have been shot

The Paid Circulation of THE DENVER POST Last Sunday Was 301,333

HOME EDITION

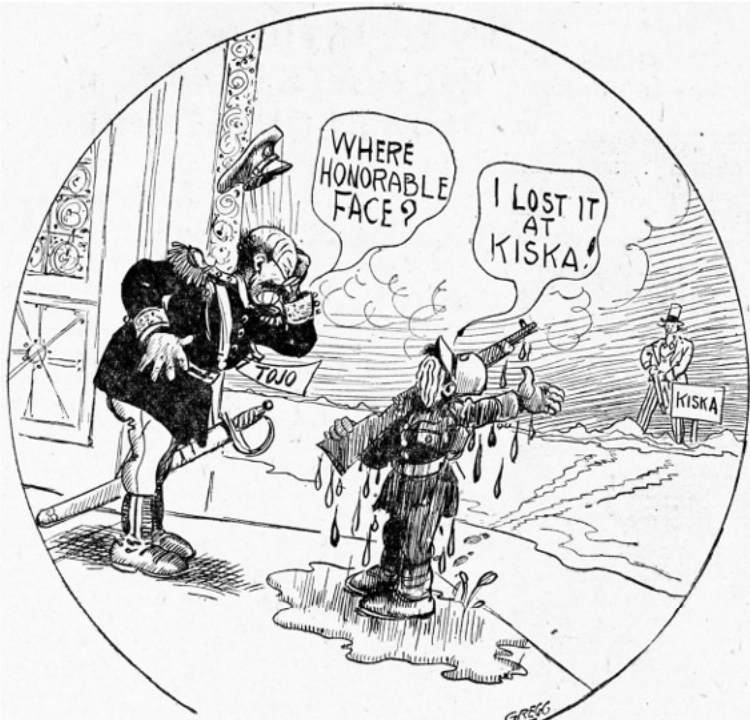
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RAIDS MADE ISLAND TOO HOT TO HOLD

Kinkaid Believes



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FALL OF KISKA

POST—FIRST IN EVERYTHING—SUNDAY MORNING, AUGUST 22, 1943

The Post Phone—Main 2121

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OPENS SHORTEST ROAD TO TOKYO

RAIDS MADE ISLAND TOO HOT TO HOLD

Kinkaid Believes Some Rescue Ships Were Sunk

Adak, Aleutian Islands, Aug. 19 (Delayed). — (A. P.)—

"Our recapture of Kiska without opposition means that we have completed our northern road to Japan," Vice Admiral Thomas G. Kinkaid, commander of the north Pacific, said Thursday.

(Allied occupation of Kiska, main Japanese outpost in the Aleutians, on Aug. 15 after complete evacuation by Nipponese forces was revealed Saturday in announcements made simultaneously in Quebec by President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Mackenzie King of Canada and by the United States navy in Washington.)

Admiral Kinkaid added: "Our completed chain of air and naval bases also will protect our surface vessels and our shipping units two-thirds of the way to Tokyo."

Admiral Kinkaid said it was believed United States surface craft sank some of the ships evacuating Japanese troops from Kiska.

"We believe that we sank some of their ships during a heavy fog, and at night, but this cannot be confirmed," he said.

Why did the Japanese leave Kiska?

The admiral credited the bloodless victory to our Jap-killing bombing tolls.

"It was expensive to fire so many rounds of ammunition and to drop such a large number of bombs and to keep up our constant patrols, but we saved thousands of American lives," he declared.

"By the recapture of Attu, we obtained the means of preventing sup-

WAR FLEET NOW PROTECTED FOR TWO-THIRDS OF DISTANCE

Admiral Kinkaid, Northern Pacific Commander, Believes Some of Ships Evacuating Island Garrison Were Sunk.

(Continued From Page One.)

plies from reaching Kiska island and the means of bombing Kiska by the Eleventh air force from bases to the westward, insuring the fall of Kiska itself," he explained.

"That we couldn't kill more Japs," Admiral Kinkaid added, "was disappointing to everyone. However, had the Japs chosen to stay and fight from their entrenched strong-

holds and foxholes, our casualties would have been heavy."

Army estimates of potential casualties if Kiska had been taken by force ran to 7,000 wounded and killed.

Admiral Kinkaid said the bloodless victory of Kiska changed the whole Pacific picture.

"The northern route—the shortest route to Japan—is now cleared and from Attu we are only 630 miles from Paramushiro, Japan's northernmost naval, air and army base," he declared.

Admiral Kinkaid said the Japanese infestation of the Rat and Near island bases last June served the United States well.

BOMBERS KILLED MANY JAPANESE.

"It made us aware of our danger and as a result we rushed to completion a chain of air and sea bases to defend our western approaches," he continued. "Now, when the time comes we will be ready to use them for a gigantic offensive which will break Japan's back."

The Kiska campaign, the admiral added, was not without drawing Japanese blood.

"A goodly number of the estimated 8,500 Kiska Japs were killed—how many is difficult to estimate—by the relentless pounding of the Eleventh air force under the command of Maj. Gen. William O. Butler and by our heavy surface bombardments.

"More than 5 and one-half million pounds of bombs were dropped on Kiska since last August. Two of the navy's bombardments were the heaviest in Pacific naval warfare.

SEVERAL SHIPS AND SUBS SUNK.

"We have sunk many of their ships and submarines in this Aleutian theater."

An unofficial estimate has placed the number of ships sunk at over twenty and the number of submarines at over eight, and there were many "possible sinkings." Admiral Kinkaid cited one of these possibilities:

"An army bomber was credited with a possible sinking off Holtz bay, Attu. Subsequently I have learned from unimpeachable sources that that vessel was sunk and that only ten of some 1,300 Japanese soldiers escaped from that vessel. Men do not live long in Aleutian waters. There were many more of such possible sinkings."

Admiral Kinkaid described the apparent contact with the retreating Japanese in this manner:

Japanese in this manner:

American warships made contact with some "objects" at night and in the fog by similar instruments to those used in the battle in which two modern battleships sunk Japanese ships in the south seas during the night of Nov. 14. Salvos were fired at these "objects" and they disappeared.

DIRECT HIT ON NIP SUBMARINE.

Admiral Kinkaid pointed out that during another night action an American destroyer fired a salvo during a heavy fog and made a direct hit on a Jap submarine which might have been evacuating Kiska Japs. This sinking was confirmed because the Japs beached that broken sub on a nearby Aleutian island.

The Aleutian campaign was costly in material to the Japanese. These they can ill afford to lose because they cannot replace them. They lost equipment in the holds of sunken cargo ships, transports and warships and they lost all of their equipment on Attu and what they could not take with them from Kiska.

They lost men in their Aleutian campaign. Some estimates have placed this at 10,000 men on sunken ships, the bombings of Kiska and the Attu fighting.

"Kiska proved that the Japs know when they are whipped," Admiral Kinkaid said. "With enough weapons we can drive them from one island to another. It will not be easy, but Kiska demonstrates that it is possible."

COLORADO MAN COMMANDED KISKA LANDING

(Continued From Page One.)

Kodiak island, one of the most powerful of the outlying bastions defending the Alaskan mainland and the Pacific northwest from enemy attack.

Never too proud to be able to talk to a common buck private about his problems, he was said to be a popular post commander, often going out of his way and spending much of his time to improve facilities for his men and make them contented.

Japanese were found when Kiska in the Aleutians was seized, but General Corlett is also a soldier's soldier, and it can be relied on he was ready to conquer any opposition.

Lack of Resistance Total Surprise

Bamboo Bay, Kiska, Aug. 16.—(Delayed)—American and Canadian scouts entered the main Japanese garrison on Kiska Monday and discovered that the bombed and shell-torn encampment had been evacuated by the enemy.

The Japs appear to have vanished as swiftly and mysteriously as they arrived fourteen months ago. This bloodless victory is the greatest conquest Americans have yet made in the Pacific war.

American officers and men were beginning to appreciate this as the disappointment of not meeting the enemy was wearing off.

During the first forty-eight hours after the landings, the most common expressions were "well, don't this beat hell," and "brother, I still can't believe it."

The joint American-Canadian task force made two unopposed landings on Aug. 15 and 16 under the command of Maj. Gen. Charles H. Corlett of Monte Vista, Colo. The landings at Quisling cove, west of the main garrison, and Bamboo bay, to the northward, were preceded by a bombardment by naval surface craft.

Veterans of Attu fanned out into the fog-shrouded hills after the landings were made and overran one strategic point after another without encountering resistance or sighting a Jap.

There was evidence that the Jap evacuation had been speedy. Col. Edwin Sutherland, commanding the south sector, reported finding many elaborate defenses consisting of trenches, foxholes and machine gun nests—all stocked with food and ammunition—and often with the guns in place.

Brig. Gen. Joseph G. Ready, commanding the north sector, rapidly took up positions dominating the Jap road net and the main garrison. The command post was moved to the empty Kiska garrison but the bloodless victory was an anti-climax for the highly trained troops had been tensed for a hard fight.

NIPS BOASTED OF IMPORTANCE OF ALEUTIANS

Enemy Said U. S. Could Use Island as Base To Attack Japan.

New York, Aug. 21.—(I. N. S.)—The American-Canadian occupation of Kiska island in the Aleutians followed Japanese propaganda broadcasts during the Allies to attempt such a landing and admitting that their bases in that area were of special importance to the sons of Nippon.

The office of war information Saturday summarized former Japanese broadcasts dealing with the Aleutians and quoted an enemy army spokesman as asserting last May 5:

"The position of the Aleutians is of special importance, for if the Americans are able to capture the Japanese bases they can launch air attacks upon the islands of Japan. This would also afford the United States navy a chance of operating in these waters, especially during the summer months."

Other propaganda transmissions beamed at the United States asserted the Japanese were ready to repel any attacks upon Kiska and claimed the American army leaders were "scared" to risk the heavy casualties "necessary" to recapture the island.

Last April 30 Maj. Gen. Nakao Yahagi, Japanese army spokesman, assured his homeland that "our Aleutian garrison now is fully prepared," to which the Tokyo radio added "enemy attempts to raid Japan from these directions now belong in the realm of remote possibility."

TOKYO SILENT ON KISKA EVENTS

New York, Aug. 21.—(A. P.)—Radio monitors of the federal communications commission reported Saturday night that six hours after the American-Canadian Kiska landing had been announced, no monitored Japanese broadcast, domestic or overseas, had mentioned the event.

EVACUATION OF KISKA INDICATES JAPS MAY AIM BLOW AT SIBERIA

(By GLENN BABB.)

(Associated Press Foreign News Editor.)
(Glenn Babb was chief of the Tokyo Bureau of the Associated Press for eight years, from 1928 to 1936.)

The fog-shrouded flight of the Japanese from Kiska, an astounding departure from their customary last-ditch, cornered-tactics, may be the tipoff on one of the great decisions, one of the climactic turning points of the war.

In the Aleutians at least the enemy has abandoned the strategic plan under which he fought to the death on Guadalcanal and Attu, in Papua and at Munda. Strategic retreat is something new in the Japanese manner of fighting. It is not part of the samurai code. It must have been something terribly compelling that led to the abandonment of the last foothold on North American territory, which the Japanese people had been told was a prize beyond price.

JAPS HAD NOTHING TO GAIN BY BATTLE.

Of course it was obvious to all, especially to the canny, calculating generals and admirals at imperial headquarters that the Kiska garrison was doomed if it stood and fought. Nothing was to be gained by battle except a few thousand American and Canadian casualties and satisfaction of the old warrior code that rules out surrender and retreat. But hitherto the Japanese command has not heeded such realistic considerations.

What does the flight from Kiska mean? Is it the first step in a new strategic plan of hemispheric proportions, a withdrawal from the far outposts to some inner, more defensible fortress? Or is it a preliminary to a new offensive move, a desperate lashing out at some supposedly vulnerable joint in the Allied armor, perhaps at the behest of and to save Japan's sorely beset partners in Europe?

HITLER URGING CONCERTED ACTION.

It might be the latter. There is no doubt that Hitler's representatives in Tokyo have been using all the persuasive powers at their command to convince Tojo and company that the only hope of the Axis partners to avert destruction is common, concerted action, some devastating blow now, before it is too late. The one thing that would, for the moment at least, most improve the outlook for Germany would be a Japanese attack on Soviet Siberia, which might weaken the terrible, inexorable pressure that the Red army is exerting on the wehrmacht.

Such an attack is certainly a possibility. The flower of the Japanese army, some thirty-odd divisions, half a million men or more, that make up the Kwantung army, is in Manchuria, arrayed along the Siberian border. Perhaps another million men, now in north China or the Japanese home islands, would be available for a thrust into Russia's maritime province. Two generations of Japanese military men have been taught that war with Russia is inevitable, that one day Japan must wipe out the menace of

the air and naval bases around Vladivostok, only 700 miles from Tokyo. This may be the time.

JAPS MAY NEED TROOPS FOR BURMA.

But there is another offensive enterprise to which Japan's still formidable reserves may be turned. One front on which the Japanese definitely are not on the defensive, and from which they are not retreating, is Burma. The latest dispatches from that area tell of recent forward movement by the enemy close to India's borders.

The Japanese know that an Allied offensive in Burma is in the making, that we are compelled by the logic of the Asiatic military situation to make a mighty effort to slash thru the enemy cordon to restore effective military communications with China. They know that China is the key to the defense of Japan itself, that once the Americans have air bases in eastern China, it will be Japan's turn to know the torment that has been visited on the Ruhr, Hamburg, Rome, Naples.

So the horns pulled in at Kiska may become manifest soon on India's eastern border. Or the Japanese may try again to deliver that knockout blow to Chiang Kai Shek's government, an achievement that could prolong the Pacific war for years, perhaps even gain that stalemate which the Japanese would welcome as a victory.

Aleppo, a city of Turkey in Asia, dates back to 2000 B. C.

Kiska Chief Faces Fate Of Hara-Kiri

Washington, Aug. 21.—(I. N. S.)—The Japanese abandonment of Kiska without a fight caused speculation in military circles in Washington Saturday that the Nipponese commander would be forced to commit hara-kiri when he returns to Japan.

The navy, in telling of recapture of the island, revealed that heavy American bombers had completely destroyed the Japanese radio station on the island on July 30 and said that the Japs had been out of touch with their homeland since that time.

This indicated that the Japanese commander made his own decision to evacuate. Because of this, it was believed in some military circles that the Jap military leader on Kiska will have lost face with the Tokyo high command and be given the opportunity to end his own life.

There were seventy-four miles of new railway line built in 1942. Since 1930 the average has been about seventy miles.

NOT HOW BUT HOW

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JAPAN'S AMERICAN INVASION BOMBED INTO FATAL COLLAPSE

Air Raiders Swooped Down on Kiska 106 Times
In 14 Days and Naval Craft Shelled Enemy
Positions on 15 Occasions.

Washington, Aug. 21.—(A. P.)—American and Canadian forces stood undisputed masters of Kiska Saturday night and the once-ambitious Japanese invasion of North America lay a bombed and bombarded failure.

"No Japanese were found." With those words the navy told Saturday of seizure on Aug. 15 of the once strong enemy air and submarine base in the Aleutian islands.

Two weeks of the heaviest bombings yet carried out against the Japanese preceded the landings, the navy disclosed in lifting the silence that has cloaked north Pacific actions for three weeks. It explained this silence was prompted by a belief the Japanese radio equipment had been smashed and the navy wished to supply Tokyo with no news.

WARSHIPS SHELLED ISLAND 15 TIMES.

In fourteen days—Aug. 1 to 14—heavy and light bombers, dive bombers, fighter planes, cannon-carrying planes roared down on Kiska 106 times. They dumped tons and tons of bombs on the enemy positions, knocking out gun emplacements, tearing up the Japanese airfield, blowing up or setting afire buildings and supplies.

Naval surface units were equally busy. On fifteen occasions they steamed into the choppy waters off Kiska and sent their big shells shrieking onto the island. Once heavy naval units—certainly cruisers, possibly battleships—stood off shore and poured 2,300 shells onto the Japanese positions. They were unopposed.

President Roosevelt and Prime Minister W. L. Mackenzie King of Canada hailed the occupation in a joint statement at Quebec where Allied leaders are plotting new troubles for the Axis. They said:

"The present occupation of Kiska frees the last vestige of North American territory of Japanese forces."

The absence of opposition to the big naval bombardment was one of the indications of the beginning of the end for the Japanese on Kiska. Doubtless this shelling was a major part in the relentless pounding that ultimately forced the enemy decision to give up the island.

Days after that bombardment from the sea the last enemy opposition was reported on Aug. 13. Then it was only light anti-aircraft fire against bombers and fighters which shattered buildings with direct hits and set off many fires at Gertrude Cove and North Head in the main camp and north of Reynard point. Sometime shortly thereafter the Japanese escaped, for two days later when American and Canadian troops made their landings no enemy forces were found on Kiska. Fogs presumably aided the Japanese in evacuating the remnants of their garrison, once estimated at 10,000 men.

NOBODY THERE TO WELCOME YANKS.

Regardless of the method of escape, all of the enemy had disappeared when American and Canadian troops leaped into the icy surf and charged onto the rocky beaches in the first reported joint action by American and Canadian ground forces in the Aleutians. Canadian bomber and fighter planes have helped in the aerial assaults.

Where the Japanese might have fled is a mystery. However it is possible that surface units slipping thru the fog to carry out the evacuation might have crept back to bases in the northern Kuriles, possibly at Paramushiro, enemy naval base which already has been bombed three times by American forces reaching ever closer to the enemy's homeland.

The lack of opposition on Kiska—despite the heavy air and sea bombardments—was in a way a surprise. Never before in this war have the Japanese withdrawn from a base without waging a suicidal fight. On neighboring Attu, defeated Japanese

troops armed even with bayonets tied on sticks, raided American camps in a final futile battle last May. Then survivors hugged grenades to their chests and died on the island they had sought vainly to retain. The difference at Kiska could represent a change in enemy policy.

WAY CLEARED TO PARAMUSHIRU.

More than a year of attacks were carried out in the Aleutians campaign which began in June, 1942, with the abortive attempt of the Japanese to capture Dutch Harbor. Defeated in that effort they established bases on Attu, Kiska and Agattu. Subsequently they abandoned Agattu in favor of concentrating their strength on Attu, whence they were driven three months ago, and on larger Kiska. Aerial assaults on those bases were coupled with a blockade which prevented movement of supplies or reinforcements for the enemy garrisons.

Capture of Kiska—elimination of the Japanese in the Aleutians—opens the way now for renewed assaults on Paramushiro, principal Japanese naval base at the northern end of the Kurile island chain of which Japan itself is a part, as well as other bases.

It means also that a new and important submarine and naval base can be established, for Kiska, a former coaling station of the United States navy, has a good harbor in which large surface vessels could safely be serviced while battling the Japanese in the northern Pacific waters. It means the Japanese have lost a good Pacific observation post.

LAST GAP CLOSED IN KURILES ROUTE.

The capture closes the last gap in the northern route to the Kuriles. Distances there are important. Kiska is only about 1,800 miles from Tokyo itself. Attu is 172 miles closer. With those two bases for plane and surface craft a long step has been taken in the ultimate assault upon the Japanese homeland.

The beginning of that drive might take the form of heavier assaults upon Paramushiro, 630 miles to the west, possibly knocking out that base and giving Allied forces a point from which they could move down the island chain if deemed strategically advisable, to Japan and Tokyo some 1,000 miles southward.

Also it could mean that forces under Vice Admiral Thomas C. Kinkaid, commander of the north Pacific fleet, could keep the Japanese occupied, forcing them to put greater strength in that area while to the south a drive toward Japan is made under direction of Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander-in-chief of the Pacific fleet.

In a supplementary communique, the navy explained the many attacks on the island which immediately preceded the landing and had not been disclosed because of the need for silence to keep information from the enemy.

HOW JAPS ESCAPED FROM KISKA ONE OF WAR'S DEEP MYSTERIES

Guesses Include American Scheme to Let Nips
Carry Bad News Home and Rescue by
Giant Supersubmarines.

Washington, Aug. 21.—(I. N. S.)—The spectacular recapture of Kiska, bombarded into a ghostly shell of the once-powerful Japanese base, left military circles buzzing Saturday night with an intriguing mystery.

How did the Japanese garrison manage to escape under the

almost constant surveillance of American planes and warships?

The navy, itself, claimed to be nonplussed. Pending more complete reports from the battle area, the department stated:

"It is not known how the Japanese got away, but it is possible that enemy surface ships were able to reach Kiska under cover of the heavy fogs that have been prevalent."

ONLY THREE POSSIBLE ANSWERS.

Observers were puzzled how the Japanese could have brought in transports, loaded them with battle-shocked troops, and then snaked them out again when American and Canadian planes were ranging over the island 106 times in fourteen days—as many as twenty-four attacks in one day—and American warships were standing off shore.

Only three alternatives appeared possible:

1—The remnants of the enemy force were allowed to escape and carry back their accounts of American military might for its obvious psychological effect on the Japanese home front.

2—Evacuation of the original 10,000-man enemy garrison had been started long ago and was carried out piecemeal over a period of weeks or it had been so decimated that the problem was solved by ferrying the few remaining alive in small boats to transports lying well beyond the American patrol zone.

3—The Japanese had employed immense new cargo submarines as troop carriers to save their beleaguered soldiers.

A sub base had been early established by the Japanese at Kiska and it has been reported from various fronts that they were employing submarines as cargo vessels in defense against increasing American sea-air pressure.

KOREANS REPORT SUPER-SUBMARINE.

One was reported sunk off Lae, New Guinea, last March. And as far back as September the Japanese were disclosed to have subs with space enough to carry collapsible airplanes.

Korean secret agents, a number of months ago, informed Kilaoo K. Haan, Washington representative of the Sino-Korean Peoples league, that the Japs had developed a super-submarine with a gross displacement of 4,500 tons, twice as large as a modern destroyer.

Designed both for cargo-carrying and combat the undersea monster was said to have a cruising range of 20,000 miles and carried two collapsible planes, and four six-inch deck guns besides the usual complement of torpedoes. It was credited with a top speed of twenty-two knots on the surface and ten knots submerged.

According to Haan's agents the Japs now have at least twenty-four of these craft in service.

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JAPS DARED YANKS

AUGUST 22, 1943

SECTION ONE

TO INVADE KISKA

DENVER PRIVATE ONE OF FIRST TO ENTER KISKA HARBOR CAMP

(By HERB JONES.)

(Canadian Press War Correspondent.)

Kiska Island, Aug. 17 (Delayed).—Kiska is ours without firing a shot. It is now more than fifty-six hours since first units of our combined American-Canadian force, biggest Pacific invasion force since Guadalcanal, set foot on this north Pacific island early Sunday (Aug. 15) from the Bering sea side, but not a single Japanese has been encountered.

Our commanders believe the Japanese pulled out, just how no one is sure, a short time before our arrival.

They left behind crude mines made of dynamite and marmalade tins buried on beaches. Dugout machine gun nests and emplacements still had their ammunition and guns.

Our advance reconnaissance units found Kiska harbor, believed the most heavily fortified of the Japanese emplacements, theirs for the taking.

Pvt. F. M. Brownlee of Denver, Colo., one of the first to enter Kiska harbor camp, told me buildings there were intact and had been occupied as recently as a week or two ago. A 700-foot flying strip was pitted with our bomb holes from recent air attacks.

Some Canadians in the advance party to reach this spot where resistance was expected threw grenades in dugouts but there was no sign of life.

Despite the lack of resistance we are digging in on the island.

Our great transports anchored here at Witchcraft point and at the more southerly landing near Quisling cove continued to disgorge their invasion cargo of men and materials. Heavy machinery is working at both beachheads building roads, setting up communications. The weather has been hot.

Monday I trekked three miles

inland from this Canadian-American beachhead almost to our advance combat teams. Just beyond brigade headquarters we found a sizable Japanese emplacement partially destroyed.

It seems the enemy left quickly, for stepping carefully to avoid possible booby traps I found dishes, cooking utensils and other material intact. Some Japanese rifles were found here and nearby streams were littered with old Japanese blankets and rotting rice. Our troops got souvenirs, but no Japs.

Our forces who arrived strong and confident and itching for action are disappointed at not meeting the Japanese.

"This is a hell of an invasion," the soldiers say.

4-H YOUNGSTERS REVERSE ROLES

Morris, Kan., Aug. 21.—(A. P.)—Things got a bit mixed at the 4-H club fair.

An 11-year-old boy, Bruce Dimmitt, was named grand champion cook, and a 12-year-old girl, Patricia Soden, was named grand champion hog raiser.