

FLYERS SAY PARAMUSHIRO RAID WAS LIKE FLIGHTS IN ALEUTIANS

First Attack on Jap Territory Since Tokyo Bombing Declared No More Difficult Than Those on Kiska; Nip Planes Seen but None Put Up Fight.

Headquarters, Alaska Defense Command, July 20.—(A. P.)—(Delayed.)—Alaska pilots training in combat flying over Kiska celebrated Tuesday the first successful raid on Japanese territory since the bombing of Tokyo.

Aleutians-based bombers returned without the loss of a plane from a long distance bombing of Paramushiro, Japan's northernmost military base. The raid came as a logical development after the American occupation of Attu. It had long been expected and prepared for, with Japanese shipping being swept from the northern seas by naval surface vessels.

The bombers were from the army's Eleventh air force, which has done the lion's share of all flying in the Aleutians the last year.

Returning pilots reported the bombing was no more difficult than flights against Japanese bases on American islands in the Aleutians. They came out of the overcast into clear skies above Paramushiro and looked down on a square mile of military installations. They saw some Japanese planes but none that wanted to fight.

ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE WAS LIGHT.

Only light anti-aircraft fire was met. Bombs were dropped near ships in the harbor. They saw what appeared to be an ancient fort, built long before bombers were ever made.

Nearby was a mile-long airplane landing strip.

Several large buildings were set afire.

The raiders, who were in the air for more than nine hours, spent at least forty minutes over the target, climbing and circling before dropping their bomb loads. Bad weather areas forced them to take a circuitous route to Paramushiro, and clouds prevented the contemplated deck level bombing when they were over the target.

BOMBERS CARRIED NO SPECIAL EQUIPMENT.

The big bombers carried no special equipment except life rafts for possible forced landings on the cold sea. But all agreed the thing to do if their planes were crippled was to try to reach Russian territory.

The pilots, all veterans of raids

on Attu or Kiska, knew they were making a dangerous survey flight in preparation for future attacks which will eventually hit all of the Kuriles and extend to the more thickly populated islands of Japan proper.

Capt. James L. Hudelson, Benton, Ill., who already holds the Distinguished Flying Cross and Air Medal for his achievements in Aleutian combat flying, led the flight.

TRANSFER OF UTILITY PROPERTY APPROVED

The Colorado public utilities commission Wednesday gave the Mountain Utilities corporation authority to transfer its certificates of public convenience and necessity and its properties in Douglas, Elbert and El Paso counties to the Intermountain Rural Electric association, a rural electrification co-operative.

No opposition to the transfer was offered at a hearing held last month.

The sale will involve \$147,000, the commission was told, and includes electric transmission and distribution lines supplying Monument, Kiowa, Elbert, Elizabeth and Palmer Lake and their vicinities. Energy for the system is obtained from the city of Colorado Springs.

JAMES H. WARDER, 60, DENVER BARBER, DIES

James H. Warder, 60, of 502 East Dakota avenue, died Tuesday in the Denver General hospital following an illness of ten weeks.

Mr. Warder had lived in Denver thirty-eight years. He was a barber

CO-ORDINATED SEA-AIR ASSAULT SOFTENS KISKA FOR INVASION

Shelling of Jap Base in Aleutians Is Sandwiched Between Heavy Aerial Raids Which Set Numerous Fires and a Terrific Explosion.

Washington, July 24.—(A. P.)—In a communique containing fresh evidence that the hour of doom is rapidly nearing for 10,000 Japanese troops holding Kiska island, the navy disclosed Saturday that the Thursday assault against the invaders' Aleutian outpost was a joint sea and air operation. The latest war bulletin on the action suggested that the Japanese probably took a heavier beating on Kiska that day than ever before in the thirteen and one-half months they have held that bleak and rocky island.

SHELLING SANDWICHED BETWEEN AIR RAIDS.

The attack started with an air raid by army four-engine Liberator bombers, Mitchell twin-engine medium bombers and swift Lightning and Warhawk fighters. These planes heavily bombed and strafed Japanese coastal batteries, anti-aircraft positions and building areas.

This first air attack was followed immediately by the naval bombardment in which heavy and light guns of the United States Pacific fleet poured tons of steel and explosives upon the same targets. Then the aerial squadrons returned to the scene and mopped up.

The communique reported, with what was regarded here as great conservatism, that these terrific air and surface onslaughts started numerous fires and observers of the attacks saw at least one terrific explosion. The attacking groups included American Warhawks piloted by flyers of the royal Canadian air force.

The Japanese fired back with coastal batteries and anti-aircraft guns. But not an American warship was damaged by fire of the shore cannon and only one United States plane of all those over the

island during the afternoon was shot down by anti-aircraft fire. Its crew was rescued.

KISKA RAIDED TWENTY TIMES IN MONTH.

Authoritative quarters here assumed that the pattern of attack against Kiska is somewhat similar to that employed by the Allied command in the Mediterranean area where air and sea power were used jointly to pulverize island defenses of Lampedusa, Pantelleria and Sicily prior to occupation or invasion.

In the north Pacific fogs and bad weather prevent planes from operating with the same freedom as in the Mediterranean theater and as a result the use of naval gunfire to soften up enemy shore positions has come to be of even greater importance there.

So far Kiska has been raided twenty times this month and bombarded seven times. Neither Japanese warships nor planes have offered any opposition. The Kiska garrison has no defense except to sit in underground positions and take a beating from all those units which cannot be stopped by gunfire.

Even so it is expected that if and when amphibious operations against Kiska begin—and not many weeks remain before bad weather sets in—the Japanese will have come thru the softening up process with sufficient weapons, supplies and ammunition to make the attack a costly one.