

KISKA RAIDED NINETEEN TIMES AND WAKE IS ATTACKED AGAIN

Liberators Bag 15 Jap Planes Out of 25 Intercepting Mission Over Central Pacific Island; All U. S. Bombers Return From 2,400-Mile Hop.

Washington, July 28.—(A. P.)—Air forces of the Pacific command, striking Japanese defenses with unprecedented fury, made nineteen attacks on Kiska island in the north Pacific Monday and Tuesday, the navy reported Wednesday, and again raided Wake island in the central Pacific.

The nineteen raids in two days announced in a navy communique raised to forty the number of attacks which bombers and fighter-bombers have made on embattled Kiska in a four-day period.

The island has been raided sixty times this month as airmen blasted the way for expected conquest of the enemy stronghold by American amphibious forces.

The raid on Wake island was intercepted by twenty-five Zero fighters, but the army heavy Liberator bombers destroyed seven of the Japanese planes, probably destroyed five and damaged three others.

Four days earlier a Liberator flight had destroyed nine Zeros, probably destroyed four and damaged five out of thirty which sought to prevent a raid.

Never before had American bombers fallen on Wake island in raids so close together. Prior to the attack last Saturday American bombers had not made the 2,400-mile round-trip from Midway to Wake since May 15.

The navy communique said that despite fighter resistance and anti-aircraft fire "bombs were placed on designated targets" without any American planes being lost or casualties to personnel in the Tuesday attack.

The north Pacific actions against Kiska totaled thirteen Monday and six Tuesday. Both days of action apparently were highly successful. The navy reported that in the Monday operations numerous fires and explosions were observed. One American plane, a Warhawk fighter, was lost, but its pilot was rescued by a navy Catalina patrol bomber.

HITS REPORTED IN JAP BIVOUC AREA.

Spotty weather prevented full observations of the attack Tuesday, but it was officially reported that hits were made in the Japanese bivouac area.

Navy communique No. 452 said:

"Central Pacific:

"1.—On July 27, army Liberator (Consolidated B-24) heavy bombers again attacked Japanese positions on Wake island. Approximately twenty-five Zero fighters intercepted the Liberators. Seven Zeros were destroyed, five were probably destroyed and three others damaged. In spite of heavy anti-aircraft

fire, bombs were placed on designated targets. All United States planes returned safely. No casualties to United States personnel.

"North Pacific:

"2.—On July 26th, flights of army Liberators, Lightning (Lockheed P-38) and Warhawk (Curtis P-40) fighters carried out thirteen bombing attacks against Japanese installations on Kiska. As a result of these bombings fires were started and explosions observed on North and South heads, the runway, the bivouac and submarine base sections, Gertrude cove and Little Kiska.

NAVY BOMBER RESCUES ONLY U. S. CASUALTY.

"Individual targets in these areas were also subjected to strafing. One United States Warhawk fighter was forced into the sea but its pilot was rescued by a navy Catalina (Consolidated PBV) patrol bomber.

"3.—On July 27th, various formations of army Liberators, Warhawks and Lightnings carried out six bombing attacks on Kiska. Hits were made in the bivouac area. Spotty weather conditions precluded full observation of the results of the attack."

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