

LETTERS AND VOICE....STAGG.

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MUSIC BACKGROUND...SEE CUE SHEETS.

TUES. 5th JAN.

U.S. NAVY MAULS JAPS OFF PHILIPPINES.

Admiral Nimitz reaped big gains when he sent a task force against heavily escorted Jap convoys attempting to reinforce the Philippines. Fighter-bombers in great strength, based on aircraft carriers, engaged the enemy in fights to the finish.

One Jap plane almost fell onto a U.S. Carrier.

One American plane was hit by shell fire. It burnt out in a few minutes, but taking the whole force of the impact, saved the carrier deck.

U.S. battleships bombarded Manila harbour. Reconnaissance planes reported further enemy ships approaching and a powerful force of fighter-bombers took off to give battle.

(GAV MANILA) Japanese warships and Merchantmen in Manila Harbour came in for devastating attacks.

An enemy cruiser and destroyer were blazing from direct hits when the planes returned. In the five days of this air-sea battle the enemy put up tremendous resistance. Nevertheless the Japs lost forty ships and close on three hundred planes for the loss of no more than twenty-seven U.S. aircraft. The presence of a large British Fleet in the Far East enables the Allies to carry the sea war ever nearer the heart of the Japanese Empire.