

TSINGTAO.

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Another prize has fallen to the invading hosts of Nippon in China --- Tsingtao, seaport in the Shantung Province. Built by the ex-Kaiser and subsequently lost by Germany, Tsingtao now passes from the control of China to Germany's friend Japan. But unlike so many others in this war --- this was a bloodless victory --- not a shot was fired by the Chinese as they abandoned their wealthy seaport to the conqueror. The scenes of wreckage that greeted the Mikado's troops were not caused by their own bombardment --- retreating Chinese had laid waste to the city as they went. Thus this war in the Far East takes its appointed course. And for the better defence of Britain's interests nearby, it is comforting to be able to show these first pictures of the newly-opened Singapore Naval Base. ~~The civil airport~~ --- recently a swamp --- ^{now a} ~~is~~ ^{now a} twenty million pound ~~dockyard~~ ^{dockyard}. Native troops are part of the defence scheme along the coast. Before the opening ceremony, the shore defences were tested in a series of manoeuvres --- land sea and sky forces all engaged. Everything was conducted as it would be in wartime, even staff work. Defending planes overhead searched the seas and skies for enemy craft in the height of the monsoon season. So we fly above the greatest naval dockyard in the world --- called King George VI Graving Dock. Singapore becomes our Gibraltar in the Far East --- together with our Navy it becomes Britain's guarantee of security for the Empire.