

EAST OF SUEZ

East of Suez it continues to be war and death. V-day for the men Far East is still ahead as Australian infantry smash Jap defence points on their way into Tarakan island. Oil is one of the objectives of the Borneo campaign. Wells that were feeding the Jap War machine will soon be working the Allies. A mirror of precious oil.

Last days of the bitter fight for Okinawa. Jap defenders are blasted out of fox holes and caves.

Even the Hays Office, America's Film Censor Board, would agree that the Okinawa battle could be called a bloody affair. A Jap prisoner broadcasts to the last remnants of the defenders. They come in to surrender - Bushido (the Japanese code of honour which demands death before surrender) is forgotten on this occasion.

Okinawa proved that Japs will surrender like anybody else after they've taken a beating. Further along the beach, a loud speaker brings in more captives who have been hiding in caves below. Bringing in a leaflet pledging safety and medical care comes a seriously wounded Japanese naval officer - one of the first to be taken alive.

Live Japs used to be a rarity - on Okinawa they forgot their Emperor and for the first time came in in droves.

British naval forces soften up Jap defences on the island of Truk in the Carolines. Once sleepy lagoons echo with the noise of war as a British carrier heads inshore to send her aircraft into battle.

Kamikaze - Jap suicide planes are at work here too. The carrier is hit, though not disabled.

American B 24's are also in the fight for the Carolines. Above Anguar island, near Truk, a cameraman records the last flight of a Liberator.

Pacific island - warfare is not cheap. General Stilwell and General Buchner commanded on Okinawa. Buchner was killed in action. Vinegar Joe Stilwell carries on. His place as Chief of Staff to Chiang Kai Shek goes to General Wedemeyer. He can talk to the Generalissimo in Chinese.

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To Simla - and the failure of another Indian Conference, To advise India's leaders comes Ghandi - followed, as always, by a crowd of disciples.

Leaders of India were there, among them the President of the Moslem League, Mr. Jinnah. Roads were blocked with thousands of Ghandi's supporters. He had to calm the crowd before they would let him through. "Zindabad", they were shouting, which means "Long Live Revolt." Another prominent Hindu leader, Pundit Nehru addressed the crowds from the balcony outside his bedroom window.

At the Vice Regal Lodge, (Lord Wavell's residence) the delegates gathered. Among them were Maulana Asad, president of the Congress Party, and other prominent Indians.

Master Tara Singh, the Sikh leader took a prominent part in the discussions. Regrettably they failed as so many Indian Conferences have done before. After the breakdown, Lord Wavell said "The responsibility for the failure was his" But reports have it that the Moslem League killed the plan. If any Viceroy can settle India's problem it will be Lord Wavell, who, with his wife and family, have come nearest yet to solving the puzzle of Indian politics.

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