

43/41.

SECRET OF SHANGRI LA.

The U.S. CARRIER HORNET, sea base of the sixteen bombers which raided Tokio and cryptically referred to by President Roosevelt as SHANGRI LA, the fictitious land in James Hilton's novel "LOST HORIZON. Official films now disclose the events which lead to Tokyo's first air raid. The carrier and her escort were spotted by an enemy patrol some 800 miles from the Japanese mainland. During the engagement the Jap vessel was sunk by gunfire, but not before radio warning could have been flashed to Tokyo. The intention was to get to within 400 miles of the target, but because of the premature discovery, the bombers had twice the distance to cover. Jap survivors were picked up. A humane action which found no parallel in Tokyo, where captured American airmen were brutally put to death.

The 80 pioneers of other-raids-to-come assembled on the deck, while General Doolittle (anxious to get closer to his target) asked for an hour and a half longer. The Hornet's Commander had a Japanese decoration, he sent the medal back to Tokyo by express delivery.

Doolittle and his five squadron Commanders. Then came the signal for take off. The first plane away was piloted by Jimmy Doolittle himself. With flaps down and front wheel up for maximum lift, the raiders took off into a howling wind.

They went to deliver America's first air blow against the heart of the Far Eastern enemy. There's an anxious moment as one plane seems as if it may plunge into the sea. But it recovers, and is on its way. On to Tokyo.

The Jap capital, where resistance was incapable of meeting the needs of the moment. Military targets were scrupulously selected - the Imperial Palace was seen but carefully avoided.

The Defense System (as they are here seen practicing it) was disorganized and in a panic. Today, Mr. Churchill says the joint air power of Britain and America will be directed against Japan in force.

In China, after bailing out by parachute, 64 men were decorated by Madame Chiang Kai Shek. Of the men who were murdered these words were spoken while the ghastly facts were then unknown.

Speech.

"We all feel pretty strongly about these boys we were with. We had all been pretty close, a large family almost like brothers. We had known each other a year to a year and a half before this raid ever came up. We knew their families, their children, and if there's any way to get even - we'll certainly try".

ALEUTIANS.

News has been coming through of fierce fighting in the Aleutians. Kiska and Attu are at the tip of the Island chain which must figure more and more in the news as the heat is turned on Japan from this cold and bleak spot in the North Pacific. American airmen at nearby bases have their teams of huskies and, as is the way with dogs, the huskies have their pups.

American aircraft are plaguing the Japs on Kiska and Attu. Tokio thought the Aleutian group as ideal stepping stones to Alaska, but they have another think coming. America may well use the islands as jumping off places for Japan.