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Today's News — TODAY!
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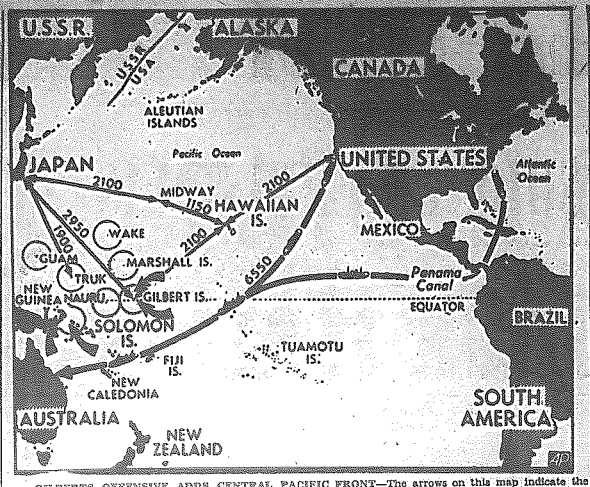
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 These sturdy wooden rockers will please your child . . . and YOU with their quality construction. A SPECIAL!

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BELK'S COLLEGE STREET STORE
 125 N. College St.
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GILBERT OFFENSIVE ADDS CENTRAL PACIFIC FRONT—The arrows on this map indicate the current U. S.-Allied offensives against Jap-held points in the Central and South Pacific areas. U. S. forces have captured Makin Island in the Gilbert group, and the fall of Truk, another of the Gilberts, is regarded as certain. The arrows and ships on the map represent the supply routes from America to Australia. The circles denote Jap air covers over island bases. The figures show distances in nautical miles between key points in the Pacific area. (AP Wirephoto.)

Predicts Powerful Air Campaign Against Japs Forces In Pacific

WITH THE SEVENTH ARMY
 Air Force, Southwest Pacific, Nov. 21—(Delayed) —(AP)—Maj.-Gen. Willis H. Hale, commanding the Seventh Army Air Force, predicted today the members of his command soon will begin a long campaign involving the most difficult flying in the world.

Today's Army, Navy and Marine attacks on Makin and Tarawa in the Gilberts, make such an imminent campaign—during the American advance along the Marshall Island chain and through other Central Pacific Islands—obvious.

Hale pointed out that heavy bombers already have made in the last ten days a series of the world's longest bombing raids, hitting seven islands in the Gilberts and Marshalls preparatory to troop landings.

"These bombers flew repeatedly on raids of 1,800 to 2,400 miles all over water. Some flew 6,000 miles in a week, hitting minute islands as targets and returning to bases equally minute. The Japanese failed to shoot down any planes over the targets."

"The purpose of these raids and coming actions," Hale said, "is to harass back at the Japanese lines. We fly over his frontal islands, attack bases from which supplies and reinforcements can be flown to beleaguered garrisons."

"Our continued purpose will be to hit farther and farther back as our own land forces advance. This involves unbelievably long raids and operating conditions not comparable to those anywhere else. If our navigators fail to get their ships back to their intended base, they have nowhere else to go except into the sea."

Hale also said the Central Pacific Islands "are ideally suited to accommodate Japanese airplanes" and are located to form stepping stones and thus to afford the enemy extreme mobility.

Months, or even years ago, he said, Jap ground crews, fuel stores and repair facilities were secretly moved into all these bases. So now the Japanese have only to shift actual airplanes and combat crews to begin operations at a new place, whereas Americans going to the new islands have the entire burden of logistics.

On the present side of the picture, Gen. Hale underscored the fact that the Japanese have so far taken practically no toll of American airplanes and he predicted an extremely fast pace for subsequent actions, keeping the enemy "constantly on the defensive," and eventually opening "a direct channel across the Pacific to Japan."

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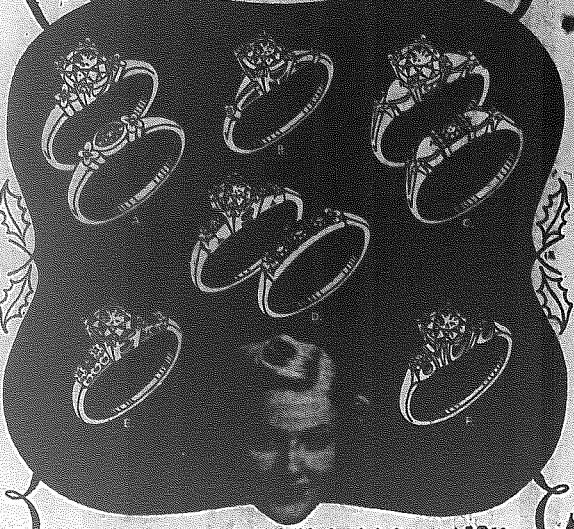
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