

# Five Jap Cities Aflame After Big B-29 Strike



SLIGAR

## Fighter Blows Follow Up Record Attack

GUAM, Aug. 2.—(UP)—Two armadas of American fighter-bombers raked central Japan at midday today in a follow-up to the greatest air attack in history—a 6,632-ton pre-dawn raid by 820 Super Fortresses.

Radio Tokyo reported the new attacks while four Japanese war production cities and an oil center still blazed furiously from the early morning B-29 assault.

Tokyo said 60 American Mustangs, presumably from Iwo, bombed and strafed the sprawling Osaka-Kobe industrial area, heart of the Japanese war effort, at noon. A second armada, also totalling 60 Mustangs, raided factories and transportation facilities in another section of Honshu for two hours beginning at 1 a. m., Tokyo said.

A few other planes attacked targets in the home islands this afternoon, Tokyo added.

### Results 'Excellent'

Returning B-29 crewmen reported "good to excellent" results at all five objectives in their pre-dawn assault, on Honshu industrial and transport centers of Hachioji, Toyama, Nagaoka and Mito, and petroleum installations at Kawasaki, a suburb of Tokyo.

All four cities had been forewarned in leaflets of their approaching doom, and preliminary reports indicated that the 20th air force would be able to cross them and the oil center off their target list as destroyed.

One B-29 was piloted by Lt. Kingman E. Rodgers of 2215 NW 36th St., Miami, who arrived at Tientsin yesterday morning. He helped set Nagaoka afire.

The giant bombers swung back into action against invasion-marked Japan while the Third fleet remained for a third day under a security blackout somewhere off the enemy coast, possibly rearming and refueling for a new round of attacks on the Japanese home islands.

Radio Tokyo said one cruiser and three destroyers, presum-

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## PACIFIC

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ably a task force from the Third fleet, bombarded O island, northernmost of the Izu islands 70 miles south of Tokyo, yesterday morning.

### Carrier Planes Out

Carrier planes also joined in the bombardment, the broadcast said, but it claimed damage was negligible.

Another Tokyo broadcast said three Allied submarines shelled the west coast of the Cape of Erimo on southern Hokkaido, northernmost of the Japanese home islands, yesterday afternoon. Only 24 hours earlier, a single Allied submarine had shelled the city of Tomakomai on southern Hokkaido, Tokyo said.

Far east of Japan, an American battleship and carrier planes joined in a bombardment of long-by-passed Wak island yesterday, Adm. Chester W. Nimitz announced.

Japanese shore batteries and antiaircraft guns on Wake offered only slight opposition. No American crewmen were injured, but shell fragment caused "extremely minor" damage to some warships.

### Garrison Starving

The attack was designed to harass the hunger-weakened garrison which was cut off from Japan by the American advance to the threshold of the enemy's home island. It was on Wake that a handful of U. S. marines held off the Japanese for 14 days at the start of the Pacific war.

Only one Super Fortress was lost in today's record five-way attack despite the fact that the four main target cities had been warned they would be bombed to destruction. Moderate antiaircraft fire and only slight fighter opposition were encountered.

A total of 778 bombers struck the four cities and the petroleum installations at Kawasaki, and 42 other Super Fortresses mined Shimonoseki strait between the main Japanese home islands of Kyushu and Honshu and waters off Seishin and Rashin on the coast of northern Korea.

"I finally got my highest ambition fulfilled," writes Flight Officer Philip D. Sligar, Miami. "We went to Tokyo! We led a bunch of P-47 fighters to the empire. We left them at the coast and headed for Tokyo—down what used to be known as 'flak alley.'"

### BUZZ PALACE

"It is an industrial area west of the city extending out about 25 miles. I guess more B-29's were lost there trying to knock out one aircraft factory than any place in the empire. There we were—flying down the route at 500 feet, which would have been suicide two weeks before.

"We buzzed the emperor's palace from 200 feet—then headed out to the harbor to take a look at the fleet. I really was amazed at the damage to Tokyo—there is very little of the business district left.

"We are back now on Iwo Jima, and the food is the worst I've experienced in the Army. Last night we went over to a fighter squadron, and got a halfway decent meal of hamburgers, fried potatoes, peas and ice water.

"As long as we are here, we are considered essential, and will not be sent home. I have enough points for discharge right now."

Sligar, a B-29 bombardier, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Sligar, 2318 S. W. 57th ct. He was wounded in the big raid on Osaka July 25, and received the Purple Heart.