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AT SEA

MONDAY, April 9 1945.

CRUSHING DEFEAT ON JAPANESE FLEET BY HEAVY AIR ATTACKS

U.S. heavy bombers and torpedo planes inflicted a crushing defeat on the Japanese fleet just 50 miles south of the main Japanese islands.

The enemy sent out a powerful task force which for some reason had no air cover.

U.S. aircraft swept in and after they had finished the attack, the only remaining Japanese super-battleship, Yamato, of 45,000 tons was sunk, and two light cruisers and three destroyers were in flames.

On Okinawa, American Marines are meeting stiff resistance as they drive for the capital.

British and American task forces continue to operate throughout the group to prevent the Japs from concentrating on the defence of the key island.

Japanese resistance in the Mandalay-Meiktila region has been smashed. The Japanese 15th army is no longer an effective fighting force, and two other groups have been badly mauled.

Still Rolling Forward

Allied tank columns are still rolling forward rapidly. The break through to the Weser river has been built up and forces are proceeding up and down the valley.

British and American forces, approaching separately, are now within 10 miles of Bremen and 7 miles of Hanover. Some of Montgomery's famous "desert rats" form one spearhead directed at Bremen.

The German view of Monty's drive is that it is aimed at Hamburg and Lubeck with the purpose of cutting off the Nazi forces in Denmark.

The escape corridor from Holland has narrowed to about 10 miles with the Germans putting up very stiff and fanatical resistance. A Guards regiment is fighting one of the hardest battles on the Western Front. Zutphen is the centre of one stubborn struggle.

General Patch, driving on to Nuremburg has freed two prisoner-of-war camps containing some 9,000 prisoners.

Looters Dream

The Americans have also captured a hoard of 100 tons of gold bullion, said to be the entire gold reserve of the Reichsbank. There was also a lot of foreign currency,

Sea Happy

The sea and the sun
Are good for onc,
If you can stick to your nation.
But if you are such
As takes too much,
It acts in the quaintest
fashion.

Now here is a tale
To turn you pale.
Of a 'dig' who had really
got 'em,

He would see things
With legs and wings,
Where no one else
could spot 'em.
Then one grim day

In an alleyway,
As he went to the pool
with his pips on,
A vision appeared

Both ecrie and wierd—
A bathrobe strolling
with pips on.
He saw it smile
With expressions vile,
While it danced and
beckoned inviting.
And he leapt for the mast
Exceedingly fast.
The troops with his

antics exciting.

So the mate with a frown
Then ordered him down.
To the "boob" where in
chains he's now sitting.
With needles and twine
He's getting on fine,
With the straight-jacket
he's busy knitting.

-2049.

including 2,000,000 dollars in bills. Art treasures from the Berlin galleries were also found.