

Press Photo - PERS  
The Fleet is hovering off Japan's coast, ready to assist General Douglas MacArthur's forces of occupation.

Militz's communique gave a final report on Monday's carrier strike against the Tokyo region, showing 208 enemy planes destroyed and 78 damaged on the ground, in addition to those previously announced. This brings the total toll of the Sunday-Monday strike to 424 enemy aircraft, of which 254 were destroyed on the ground 149 damaged, 19 shot down and 2 probably shot down by combat air patrols.

#### MAC ARTHUR TELLS OF LAST TWO DAYS OF ACTION:

Manila, 15 August - General Douglas MacArthur issued his final war communique added, however, that "some air patrolling for purposes of observation will necessarily be continued".

The communique gave a brief review of ground action against the enemy during the two days before Japanese acceptance of Allied surrender terms. MacArthur will continue to issue a number of statements and announcements while peace negotiations are in progress.

The Far Eastern Air Forces announced that during the final hours of the war its planes destroyed more than 42,000 tons of shipping and bagged 19 planes in attacks against Korea and Kyushu. Tuesday's final action, 17,900 tons of shipping were sunk. Many other vessels were damaged.

#### MAC ARTHUR AND ARNOLD FELICITATE PRESIDENT:

Washington, 15 August - General Douglas MacArthur today sent President Truman a message expressing his gratitude for the appointment as supreme commander to conduct Japanese surrender negotiations. MacArthur's telegram released by the White House, said, "I am deeply grateful for the confidence you have so generously bestowed upon me in my appointment as supreme commander. The entire world is in expressibly thrilled and stirred by the early termination of the war. I shall do everything possible to capitalize this situation along the magnificently constructive lines you have conceived for the peace of the world."

"In another telegram to President Truman, General H.H. Arnold, Chief of Army Air Forces, said, "In this hour of victory, the Army Air Forces chief over the world salute you, our commander in chief. Our team of land, sea and air has combined to bring the victory which the people of the world are celebrating. It is the youth, science and industry of our great country to which the American people are indebted for the air power which has made this victory possible".

#### AUSTRALIANS TELL OF NEW ATROCITY REPORT:

San Francisco, 15 August - The Melbourne Radio said today that "the management of the surrender negotiations with Japan is being severely criticized in high Australian circles". The broadcast said, "One strong objection the government holds toward bargaining with Japan is that Japanese service men have been responsible for almost unbelievable atrocities and mutilations of Allied service men". The broadcast said the atrocity stories had been confirmed and publication of the report has been withheld because of security reasons, but the Government is ready to press for publications.

#### FEARIS FELT FOR AMERICAN PRISONERS:

San Francisco, 15 August - United Press Correspondent Frank W. Howlett in an article today said the Japanese surrender will end the prison suffering of thousands of American soldiers, sailors, and airmen, headed by Lt. Gen. Wainwright.

Howlett said, "The suggestion has been made by some observers that the Japanese could evidence their good faith in the surrender negotiations by producing General Wainwright and returning him to the Americans forthwith. Besides this great and beloved American general, who passed into enemy hands with the surrender in the Philippines, the Japanese should have about 15,000 Americans in their prisoner-of-war camps. But only time will tell how many survived more than three years of mistreatment."

The Japanese took the great majority of their American prisoners in the Philippines early in 1942. They also captured Americans on Wake and Guam and a Texas National Guard Regiment which surrendered in Java.

Latest reports from Japan indicated that General Wainwright was in Manchuria with other high-ranking American and British officers. For more than a year he was on Formosa, then was moved from there in the interests of safety, according to the Japanese.

Military sources feared that the death toll among American prisoners was heavy last winter, since the men were taken from the tropics and exposed to the severe weather of Manchuria and Japan. They pointed out that Americans in the Philippines were being forced to subsist on as little as 500 calories per day, which means death in a cold climate.