PACIFIC:

Paratroopers and glider borne troops of the Eleventh Airborne Division have joined in the drive against the Japanese trapped in the Cagayan Valley in Northern Luzon. The airborne men landed in rice fields south of the big port of Aparri, taken a few days ago by American troops and Filipino guerrillas. The airborne troops quickly pushed 31 miles along the eastern bank of the Cagayan River to reach the small town of La Ho. It's been announced that the Japs have suffered more than 413,000 casualties in the fighting in the Philippines so far. Over 9,000 yellow men have been taken prisoner there.

Tokio radio claims that Allied troops have gone ashore on eastern Borneo at the great oil center of Balik Papan. General MacArthur's communiqué reports more air blows at Balik Papan but says nothing of a Allied landing there. Tank heavy from the Philippines have continued their neutralizing attacks on Formosa while other heavy bombers have struck at Jap shipping off the south China coast. Admiral Nimitz reports more American carrier plane attacks on the Jap home island of Kyushu and on the Sashima islands southwest of Okinawa. Jap casualties on Okinawa now total more than 102,000 dead and nearly 8,000 prisoners. In the south China Province of Kwangsi, Chinese troops have reached a railroad station across the river from Luchow. In Burma, British Mosquito bombers have heavily attacked the area northeast of Moulmein while British heavies bombed troop concentrations near Phowmy.

In the first three months of operations on the island of Iwo Jima, 850 Super Fortresses, with airmen totaling nearly 20,000 men, have made emergency landings there, General Arnold, chief of the Army Air Forces, has made a tour of Iwo Jima and other island bases in the Pacific and has urged that these islands be retained after the war. General Arnold said that, "These islands are vital to American strategic policy. We must have a bridge across the Pacific and the future security of the world depends on it."

Tokio radio reports that the Japanese Home Guard has received detailed instructions as how to act if and when the Allies invade the Jap homeland. The Home Guard will not be permitted to be taken prisoner alive nor die a dishonorable death.

EUROPE:

Today marks the opening of the conference at Simla, India, of the 21 Indian political leaders and Lord Wavell, the Viceroy of India, to discuss the many problems that India faces. Lord Wavell met with Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Jinnah yesterday and said, "If the conference succeeds, it will pave the way towards the settlement of India's problems." Mr. Gandhi is at Simla but will not attend the conference because of illness. He will, however, be available for consultation at any time.

In London, William Joyce (Lord Haw-Haw), made his second appearance on the charge of high treason. His defense is attempting to prove that Joyce, as well as his parents and grandparents were not British subjects, and that he should not be brought to trial for high treason.

It is nomination day today in the British general election and over 1,600 candidates are contesting for the 640 seats in Parliament. Mr. Churchill has begun a nationwide election tour in England.

Correspondents at Salzburg in Austria have been told to stand by today for an important political announcement from King Leopold's official spokesman. At San Francisco it is expected that the charter will be formally approved today.
I saw ya look at dat girl—Is dat yer basic weapon—What's yer name?