

THE WAR IN THE ISLANDS: IT STRETCHES FROM THE GILBERTS TO THE ALEUTIANS

ALLIES ENCIRCLING WWSCHHAFEN BASE

Forces Set Trap as Fierce Japanese Resistance Slows Australians Nearing Town

AND CAMPS BATTERED

Hit Communications Lines of Foe in New Guinea and New Britain Positions

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN SOUTHWEST PACIFIC

Sept. 27 (AP) A frontal attack on Finschhafen by tough Australian jungle fighters has led before stiffening enemy resistance, but the Japanese desperately defending that east New Guinea coastal base today found themselves simultaneously encircled by the threat of encirclement from the rear.

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Allies Bomb Villages

Aerial planes from the Southwest Pacific command today bombed Japanese positions in the Finschhafen area.

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Filipino mess boy aboard a United States aircraft carrier autographs one of the several bombs that were dropped on the Japanese base in Tarawa in one of the sorties carried out by combined Army and Navy bombers against the enemy in the Gilbert Islands.

RED ARMY REGAINS MANY VITAL AREAS

Strategic and Economic Values Attached to Ukraine, White Russia and Donets Basin

WASHINGTON, Sept. 26 (AP) The Russian Army in the offensive that began in midsummer has recaptured areas that, it is estimated, have total approximately 89,000 square miles.

The operations have swung most heavily into the Donets Basin and the eastern Ukraine. The Red armies are now advancing also through White Russia and toward the borders of old Poland.

This is of major importance in the control of railroad lines and in the grand strategy of war. It is of no less importance in the opportunities regained for millions of Russians who once lived in those areas and who are now moving back to restore their homes and resume their lives under the banners of their native country. It is of the greatest importance in what it means for Russia's economic life, for such agricultural and industrial areas have been recaptured.

White Russia has no special natural resources of value, but the Ukraine contains most of Russia's resources. The Donets Basin and the Ukraine are among the richest agricultural and industrial regions of all Russia.

The Ukraine is known not only for its wheat and other farm products but for its high rank as an industrial section. Before the war it accounted for 18 per cent of Russia's industrial output.

A land of inexhaustible natural wealth, fertile fields, orchards, meadows and forests, it also contains factories and power plants. It also contains a natural phenomenon—large deposits of roasting iron ore by side with iron ore and manganese.

NEWS BULLETINS by The New York Times over Station WJCA—570 on the dial. Every hour on the hour 8 A.M. through 11 P.M.

BATTLE AT SHORE OF DNEIPEL WAGED

Continued From Page One

yond Smolensk—the southeast. The Kaplya River above Vitebsk already had been reached by Soviet units, and repercussions were expected on the enemy's positions near Leningrad in the north.

One German broadcast said Russian parachute troops were dropping behind Axis positions, but it was obvious the entire Dnieper River line was imperiled by the crushing Soviet offensive, which began July 12 and has already regained more than 89,000 square miles of territory.

The Dnieper is the last big natural defense barrier before the Polish border, and Moscow dispatches said the Red Army was making sensational progress from Smolensk to the Zapovednye area, on the river's bend in the south.

A summary of the day's more important activities in the various sectors follows: Gomel—A Red Army column sweeping west of Bryansk advanced up to eleven miles and captured more than 300 towns and villages.

Kiev—The Russians now were within artillery range of the third largest Soviet city and ancient capital of Russia, which has been in German hands for more than two years. Berlin has reported several Soviet attempts to cross the Dnieper above and below Kiev during the past few days.

TORNADO AND MUD DEFIED BY RUSSIANS

Continued From Page One

rose today from the ashes of the sacked city. Survivors of Smolensk's pre-war population of 100,000 were estimated at fewer than 10,000. But many civilians who fled to the marshlands and forests surrounding the city were beginning to return and thousands of others, being deported to Germany for slave labor, were rescued from German troops by Soviet guerrillas.

Fired 4 Days Before Fall

A front dispatch to the newspaper Pravda said Smolensk burned for four days before the Russians stormed into the city that was Germany's greatest eastern front bastion. Enormous flames served as beacons for the Red Army, advancing through thick forests in the nights.

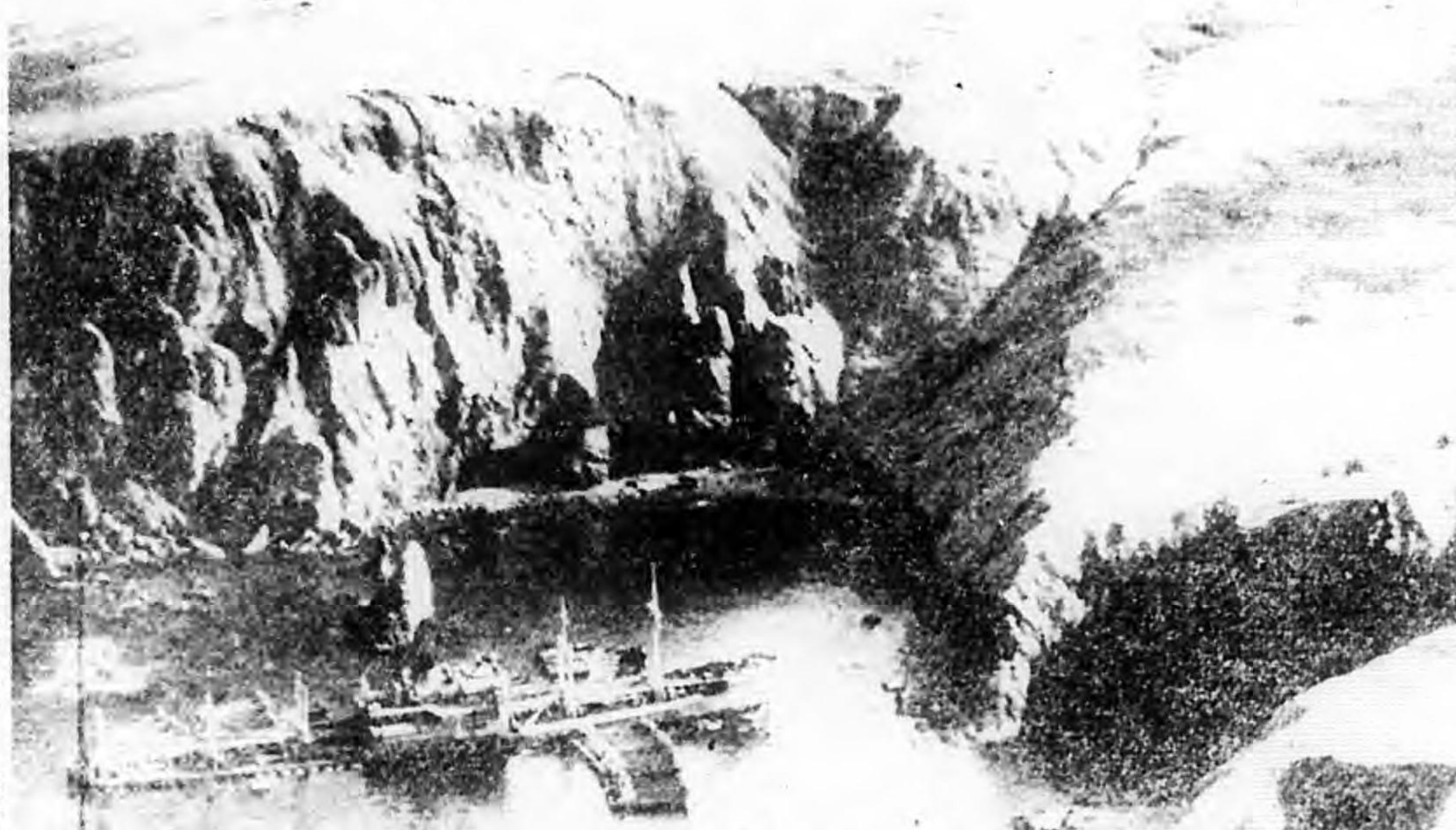
The night before the final assault on the city, Pravda said, a tornado swept the area between Moscow and Smolensk. Trees were uprooted and telephone poles and lines were smashed to the earth. A heavy rain caused vast quantities of mud.

Defying the tornado, the Russians marched by day and night on the heels of the retreating Germans across streams and inundated fields. Only humans were able to keep up the grinding pace so the Soviet soldiers replaced their horses and motors, moving their guns through the bogs by hand.

Kager infantrymen, who advanced twelve miles that day, fighting the elements as well as the Germans refused to stop for food, saying: "Wait until we get to Smolensk."



The airfield at Tarawa Island is pocked with bomb craters after our airmen carried out their raids from carrier-based planes on Sept. 19. Several burned out planes are on the field.



Beneath the steep shores of Kiska this partly sunk Japanese ship now serves as living quarters for some of our forces.

CHINESE BEGIN PLANS TO REGAIN MANCHURIA

Knomintang Council Calls for Creation of New War Zone

CHUNGKING, China, Sept. 26 (AP) The People's Political Council of the Kuomintang today called on the Chinese Government to set up a northwestern war zone headquarters preliminary to reoccupying Japanese-occupied Manchuria.

Wang Han-shing, member from Manchuria, who sponsored the resolution adopted by the council, said: "We must make painstaking, comprehensive plans for a counter-attack in Manchuria, hence war zone headquarters are a prerequisite," he said.

Pictured: top to bottom

- White solitaire set in 14K gold, \$100
- Solitaire in classic platinum setting, \$250
- Solitaire flanked with small diamonds, gold setting, \$500
- Emerald-cut solitaire, diamond-flanked. Mounted in platinum, \$1200
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 planes were lost in the
 ttle with the Japanese
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 are said to have de-
 small enemy freighter
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This is a major importance in the control of railroad lines and in the grand strategy of war. It is of no less importance in the opportunities regained for millions of Russians who once lived in those areas and who are now moving back to restore their homes and resume their lives under the banners of their native country. It is of the greatest importance in what it means for Russia's economic life, for rich agricultural and industrial resources have been recaptured.
 White Russia has no special natural resources of value, but the Caucasus contains most of Russia's oil resources. The Donets Basin and the Ukraine are among the richest agricultural and industrial regions of all Russia.
 The Ukraine is known not only for its wheat and other farm products, but for its high rank as an industrial section. Before the war it accounted for 18 per cent of Russia's industrial output.
 A land of inexhaustible natural wealth, fertile fields, orchards, meadows and forests, it also contains factories and power plants. It also contains a natural phenomenon—large deposits of coking coal side by side with iron ore and manganese.
 Its wheat alone was used by Czarist Russia in paying foreign debts. Its raw materials and semi-manufactured goods supplied the industries of central Russia. Under the Soviet regime it became the fourth place in the world for coal production and the third in pig-iron smelting. It contains some of the largest iron and steel plants in the world, tractor and locomotive-building works and chemical plants. Machine-building had become its main and leading industry.
 Before the war the Ukraine produced 60 per cent of Russia's coal and pig iron, 20 per cent of her engineering industrial output, one-fourth of all the grain and two-thirds of all the sugar. Its agricultural wealth was found in sugar beets, sunflowers, tobacco, fruits, vegetables, livestock and poultry as well as wheat. There were sugar-refining and canning plants, confectionery factories and packing houses. It had more railroads than any other region of Russia.
 The Donets Basin has normally had a high industrial output. It is rich in minerals.
 In Stalingrad alone, of the areas regained for Russia, there were some of Russia's greatest tractor plants before the war. Many, early in the war, became tank factories.
German Naval Officer Escapes
TORONTO, Ont., Sept. 26 (AP)—A German naval officer, 30-year-old Wolfgang Heyda, escaped from prison camp at Bowmanville, Ont., late Friday afternoon, military authorities announced today. Bowmanville is about 200 miles east of here.
Egypt Opens Radio to Soviet News
CAIRO, Egypt, Sept. 26 (AP)—Permission has been granted to the Soviet Government to use radio transmitters of the Egyptian state broadcasting system for the sending of Soviet news and propaganda in the Russian language, presumably for the benefit of the large colony of White Russians in Egypt.

along parachute troops were dropping behind Axis positions, but it was obvious the entire Dnieper River line was imperiled by the crushing Soviet offensive, which began July 12 and has already regained more than 80,000 square miles of territory.
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 A summary of the day's more important activities in the various sectors follows:
Gomel—A Red Army column sweeping west of Bryansk advanced up to eleven miles and captured more than 300 towns and villages.
Kiev—The Russians now were within artillery range of the third largest Soviet city and ancient capital of Russia, which has been in German hands for more than two years. Berlin has reported several Soviet attempts to cross the Dnieper above and below Kiev during the past few days.
Kremenchug—The fall of this eastern-bank city 160 miles south-east of Kiev is expected soon. Soviet units already apparently were encircling it after having reached the Dnieper.
Dniepropetrovsk—The Russians already were within sight and artillery range of this iron and steel center, whose maze of chimneys and factories resembles America's Pittsburgh. It lies on the west bank of the Dnieper at the top of the river bend.
Kuban—Soviet troops captured three more villages in the steady ousting of the remaining German units clinging to a narrow foothold in the northwest Caucasus opposite the Crimea.

NAZIS CLAIM SEA VICTORIES

Speedboats Said to Have Sunk Two British Vessels

LONDON, Sept. 26 (AP)—The German High Command claimed today in a communiqué broadcast from Berlin that German speedboats sank a British patrol vessel and a motor torpedo boat in an engagement Saturday night off the English coast.

The enemy report, not confirmed here, said one German speedboat was severely damaged and was scuttled by its own crew.

The communiqué also claimed that southwest of Den Helder, the Netherlands, British torpedo and destroyer airplanes unsuccessfully attacked a German convoy and that six British planes were shot down.

Russians Rebuild Smolensk Area
MOSCOW, Sept. 26 (Reuter)—Russia is successfully conducting a large scale house building program in recovered areas of the Smolensk region. Izvestia said: "Never has the Smolensk region known such hectic construction work as is now in progress."

The night before the first assault on the city, Pravda said, a tornado swept the area between Moscow and Smolensk. Trees were uprooted and telephone poles and lines were smashed to the earth. A heavy rain caused vast quagmires.
 Defying the tornado, the Russians marched by day and night on the heels of the retreating Germans across streams and inundated fields. Only humans were able to keep up the grinding pace so the Soviet soldiers replaced their horses and motors, moving their guns through the bogs by hand.
 Eager infantrymen, who advanced twelve miles that day, fighting the elements as well as the Germans refused to stop for food, saying: "Wait until we get to Smolensk."
 Then Soviet mobile artillery, brought up within long range, trapped units of the enemy between the advancing Red Army and the Dnieper. Front dispatches said the Dnieper was swollen with the bodies of the enemy and run red with their blood in the area of the Slovievsky bridge where thousands of Germans died.
 They were mowed down like grain before Soviet fire that cut through their ranks as they sought shelter behind knocked-out guns and vehicles. Others sought safety by leaping into the storm-swept Dnieper, where they drowned.
 The Moscow-Minsk highway, which saw the rout of Napoleon's Grand Army, now is lined with thousands of German graves marked with birch crosses cut from trees planted by Catherine the Great. The highway itself—Russia's widest—has been reduced to a row of craters, many of them twenty-five feet deep and 125 feet in diameter.
 French fliers of the Normandie Squadron, veterans of the Battles of France and Britain, flew with the Soviet airmen who distinguished themselves in the capture of Smolensk. It was disclosed today. The air force was in command of Lieut. Gen. Mikhail Gromov, hero of the 1937 Moscow-California polar flight. Front dispatches praised the French fliers, several of whom were killed in action.
BRITON HAD GLIDER BOMB
Air Chiefs in 1938 Opposed 'Indiscriminate' Attacks
LONDON, Sept. 26 (AP)—A rocket glider bomb, similar to the one described by Winston Churchill as the Germans' newest secret weapon, was offered to British air chiefs five years ago but was turned down because it "presupposed indiscriminate bombing," its inventor said today.
 The inventor, Mowd Pemberton Billing, said that his proposed bomb or torpedo would be released at 20,000 feet and would glide twenty miles or even farther if equipped with rocket propulsion.
 Answering the indiscriminate bombing objection, Mr. Billing said that he planned to control the glider by a compass operated by a photoelectric cell.
 In March, 1940, Mr. Billing said, he again approached the Air Council with his bomb but was told it was necessary at the moment to concentrate on more immediate problems.

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 "We must make painstaking, comprehensive plans for a counter-attack in Manchuria; hence war zone headquarters are a prerequisite," he said.
 He disclosed that the Japanese had built 10,000 miles of railways, most of them for military use, since the occupation and had imposed political, ethical and cultural oppressions aimed at making Manchuria a permanent Japanese colony.
 The council called on the Government to set up a war guilt commission to investigate "the criminal acts of the Japanese militarists."
 A communiqué announced Chinese troops had made successful attacks on Wanshoukung and Shangkao, west of Nanchang in northern Kiangsi, and had repulsed a Japanese attack from Anyi in northern Kwangsi.
 Japanese Imperial headquarters said yesterday that fighting on the Chinese fronts was "progressing" and that the Japanese air arm "continually attacked enemy strong points and troop encampments" during the week. The report was broadcast by Transocean, German news agency and recorded by The United Press in New York.
7 DIE IN FOOD RIOT IN INDIA
Kashmir State Police Open Fire on Mob at Jammu
BOMBAY, India, Sept. 26 (AP)—Seven persons were killed and nine were injured Friday when the Kashmir State Police opened fire on a mob in a food riot at Jammu. In northern India, it was announced.
 Twenty-five police officers and men also were injured.

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