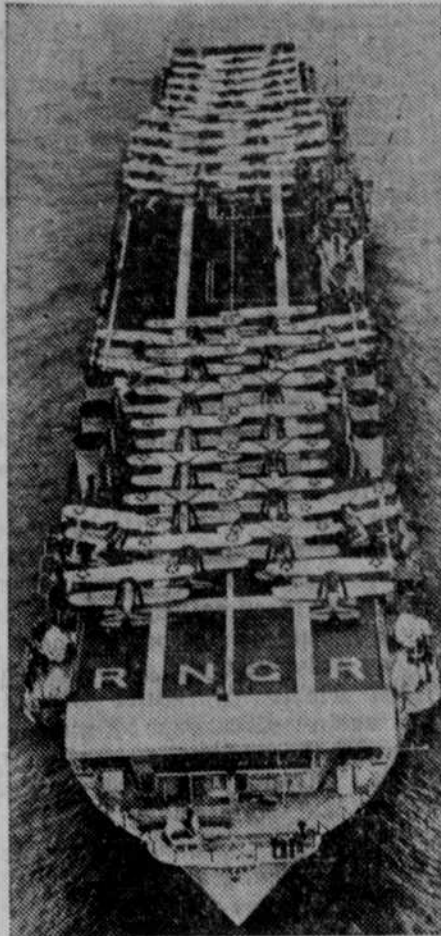


London Town of Today



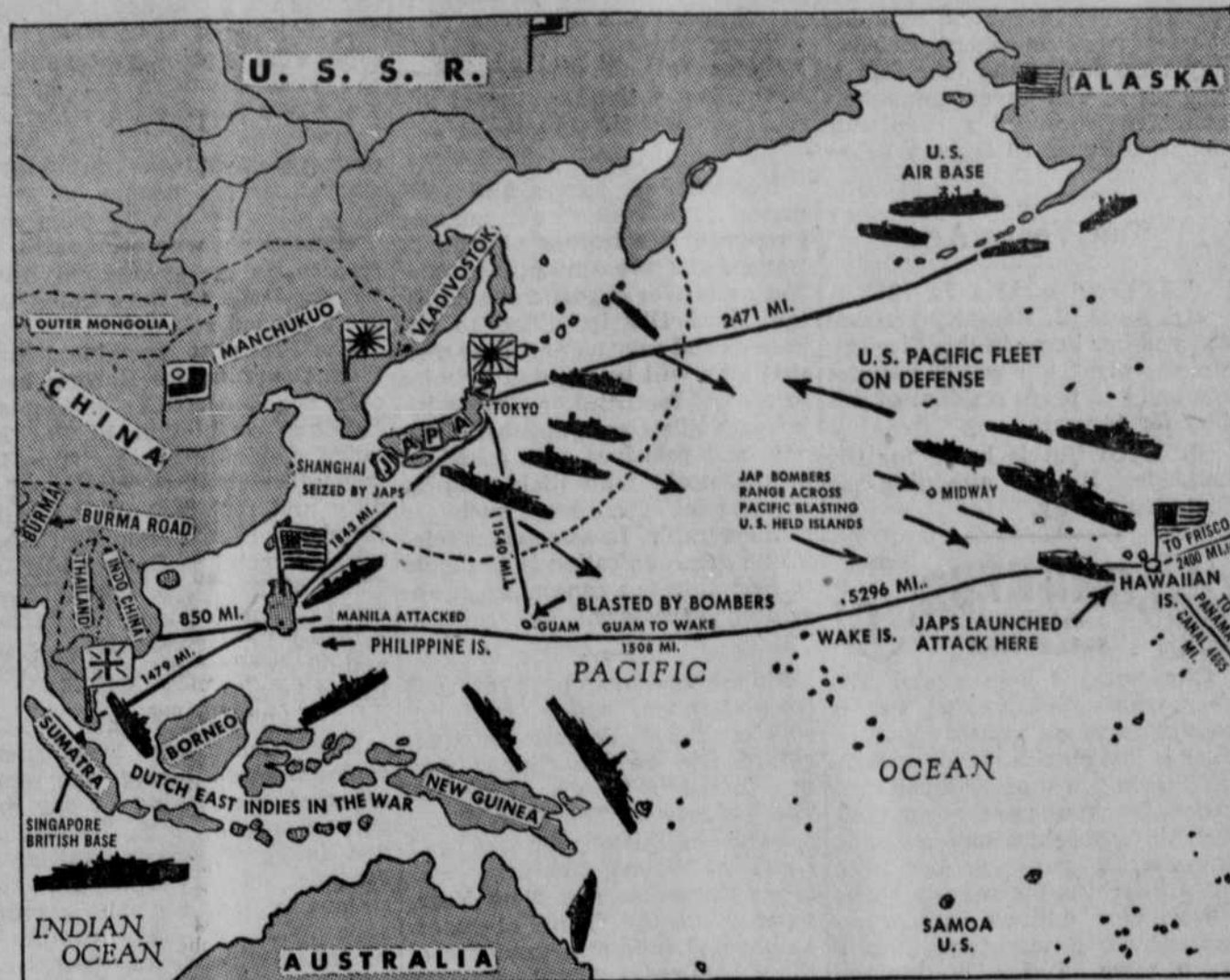
A striking photograph of the city of London, looking toward St. Paul's cathedral, which was damaged by Nazi bombs earlier in the war. The city has not been bombed for many months, and much of the debris has been cleared away, but there is still "plenty of room for improvement."

Navy Birds' Roost



A striking view of the U.S.S. Ranger, aircraft carrier of our navy, with a part of her brood of planes clustered on her flight deck. This photo appears in the U. S. naval aviation issue of Flying and Popular Aviation magazine.

Battle Stations on Pacific Front



Above map shows strategic points in the naval and aerial war now being waged between the U. S. and Japan in the Pacific.

Planning Helps Late Shoppers Select Presents

Despite incessant reminders to "shop early," last-minute shoppers will crowd the stores the day or two before Christmas in a mad search for gifts.

When there is little time left it is best to sit down and think over the problem before leaving the house. This sounds paradoxical, but far more can be accomplished by spending time planning than by rushing around a store without any idea of what is wanted.

A little ingenuity will disclose countless presents that can be acquired with a minimum of time.

Simple combinations of articles make admirable presents. For example, if the friend is a camera addict, combine several rolls of film, a flood lamp and a few flash bulbs into an attractive package.

It is inadvisable to hastily select monogrammed or initialed stationery for an inveterate letter-writer. A very welcome present can be made by enclosing a book of postage stamps in an extra-nice box of plain stationery.

These are just two of many combinations which will satisfy the need for last-minute presents. If you are too tired or too busy to employ even this simple device there are still several other practical remedies.

Fill in that subscription blank for your favorite magazine that has been around the house, and wrap a current issue in an attractive carton with a note explaining that there are 12 more to come. Only be careful that the friend does not already subscribe to the magazine or your present will lose a good share of its interest.

Another welcome gift can be secured at the last minute by telephoning the local theater for a few tickets. Then write a little note, preferably in rhyme, and include it with the tickets.

A little ingenuity will disclose countless presents that can be acquired with a minimum of time.

By all means don't buy things that come in sizes unless you are sure of the size. And don't buy a gift that may have to be exchanged unless the store will exchange the article willingly.

Bomb-Barricade in San Francisco



Following almost nightly air raid alarms and blackouts of San Francisco since the start of the war, the Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company has installed a sandbag barricade across the front of their building. Workmen are shown erecting the wall of sandbags, which will protect vital telephone equipment from possible enemy bombs.

Explains New Draft



Gen. Lewis B. Hershey, selective service director, who says the draft is to take only men 21-35 now, and the 18 to 64 registration is for preparedness.

Los Angeles Girds Itself for All-Out War



With the U. S. and Japan fighting so close to home, maneuvers of Los Angeles Women's Ambulance and Defense corps turned into a public morale-building review. At left you see a demonstration of a gas mask drill, and rescue of a victim during a mock gas attack. Picture at right shows an anti-aircraft gun crew.

American-Built Planes Over Malaya



Here we see American-built fighting planes sweeping over the dense Malayan jungle in the Singapore area. These war craft are now serving with the British Royal Air force, and giving battle to invading Japanese forces in this strategic area. The ships are Brewster Buffaloes and they are giving a good account of themselves.

Spies Convicted



Several of the 14 men found guilty of conspiring to avoid registering as Nazi agents and guilty of delivering military information to Germany are shown filing from the Brooklyn, N. Y., federal court, under guard, after a "guilty" verdict was rendered.

Isle of Guam, Attacked by Japs



View of Guam, our lonely island outpost in the Pacific, which has been attacked and reported taken by Japanese military and naval forces. Guam is regarded as the key American Pacific outpost. At the upper left is the Pan American Airways terminal.

East Indies Leader



A recent portrait of Dr. A. W. L. Tjarda van Starkenborgh Stachouwer, governor-general of the Netherlands East Indies. With the Japanese move into Thailand, Netherlands East Indies are threatened.

War News Comes to Little Tokyo



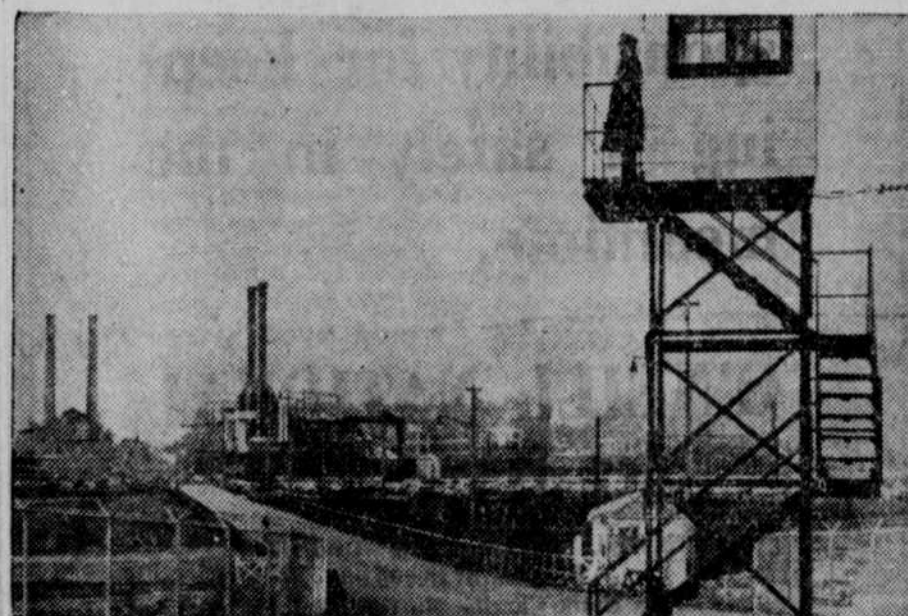
This sign in Japanese is on display outside a newspaper office in Los Angeles' Japanese colony, which is known as "Little Tokyo." Only a scattering of persons were on the streets in Little Tokyo as residents of that section read this news of the war's beginning. After reading the message they went quietly home.

Farewell Kiss



A U. S. sailor, summoned to return to his post following the attack on Hawaii, kisses his girl good-bye at Penn station, New York. It may be a long time between kisses.

Guarding America's Industries



Elevated positions permit guards to give better protection to General Electric's plant at Schenectady, N. Y. There are several guard houses such as this one. They are being built hurriedly to prevent sabotage, now that America is at war with Japan. Atop each guardhouse will be a powerful searchlight, with armed guards inside.

Patrol Chief



Maj. Gen. John F. Curry, who has been named national commander of the Civil Air patrol. He will seek enlistment of 90,000 licensed pilots and 90,000 student pilots.

Apple Ornaments



Santa Claus will get a big surprise when he sees this tree being decorated by a young lady from Virginia. The tree is completely decorated with brilliant red, yellow, green and mottled apples, dried apple tinsel and crab apple lights.

Holly Decoration Used In Pagan Celebrations

Holly has become closely associated with Christmas, but why, nobody knows.

Some claim that holly, with its thorns and blood-red berries, symbolizes the crown of thorns worn by the Saviour. Another belief is that the use of holly as Christmas decorations was handed down by the pagans. The Romans dedicated the plant to Saturn to be used at the Saturnalia, his festival, occurring in December. At about the same time the early Christians celebrated the birth of Christ, and to protect themselves from prosecution, they decorated their homes with holly.

Holiday Decorations

Christmas decorations are an admirable first aid to the Christmas spirit. They usher the holiday feeling into the home and revive that belief in Santa Claus we all need so much. So hang the house with holly and mistletoe. Hang a bow-tied wreath of holly on the door. Bring out the festive candles, decorate the mantel with spruce, and dangle shiny balls where they will capture the eye. When you've made the house bright and gay you'll be aglow with the true Christmas.