

PATHFINDER

DIGEST OF WORLD AFFAIRS

JANUARY 22, 1945

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New Battle of China

Thousands of Chinese coolies, enslaved by the Japs, toil on China's east coast. From Indo-China to Shanghai they labor at gun-point on a new 1,500 "Chinese Wall" built against liberating Allied forces. When work on a secret fort is completed, the Chinese slaves are shot.

Thus does Japan frantically speed fortification of the China coast to oppose Allied invasion. Japan is also rushing road building from Singapore to Shanghai to speed supplies and troops in defense of the coast. But China and U.S. are not idle. Allied ships straddle the sea lanes from the East Indies to Japan.

Chinese have wrested three coastal towns from the Japs and U.S. planes (the 14th Air Force) are ready to cover Allied landings. They lost their forward bases to the Japanese, but this freed them from supporting Chinese ground movements, and now U.S. fliers range the whole country. In December alone, they destroyed one-third of Japan's China-based air power, and in December and November wiped out 308 aircraft, 223 locomotives, 103,350 tons of shipping.

Our enlarged air transport supply covers all of unoccupied China. With re-opening of the Burma road soon, heavy equipment and motorized weapons will reach the Chinese. New air ground support teams are being organized.

Thus the Chinese will be able to attack from the rear when Allied coastal landings open the new Battle for China.

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