

4/103

AMERICA AT WAR!

The drama of America's entry into the war starts with Nemura and Kurusu, so-called Peace envoys full of "honourable" intentions and "honourable" oily smiles, stalling for time, while Tokyo completes all arrangements for the first unprovoked attack. Outside the White House, anxious crowds (wondering whether its to be peace or war) see the ~~most~~ indignant Secretary of State arrive. Never in all his years Mr. Hull told the Japs, has he encountered more infamous falsehoods and distortions.

Headlines scream the story of the Mikado's infamy. As usual the first blow comes from the skies. They have learned well the technique of surprise mass murder.

From Hawaii marked "A" on the map to Manila lettered "B", simultaneous air assaults were made. America's Pacific naval bases were picked out for destruction. Pearl Harbour was the target for the fiercest raids, when waves of planes swept over just before dawn, and attempted to wipe out this most important outpost of American defence. The first stunning blow resulted in heavy casualties to the United States. But now she has regained her breath, America is coming out, to hit the treacherous Japs with the full weight of her Pacific Fleet.

Angry people outside the Japanese Embassy, and where there's smoke there's fire. A blaze of incriminating documents as officials burn the written evidence of Japan's treachery.

Completely on a war footing goes all the nation. Troops on Guard at vital spots in the capital. Soldiers on leave recalled. Christmas Furlough is cancelled. These are the first pictures taken as the United States is swept out of a troubled peace into a United state of War,

A flood of volunteers for enlistment into the armed forces is America's answer to Japan's dastardly attack.

Recruiting offices are flooded out as all records for ~~adjustment~~ enlistment are broken. Six times as many men join-up for the Services as they did in the last war. There are no frontiers in this world conflict.

In the West, San Francisco looks anxiously into the skies as war travels down the coast on wings. Air Raid sirens sound the first alert from coast to coast and, just as we did in September 1939, women and children in New York make for the safety of underground shelters. After a while you get used to it.

Then comes the second historic moment when the United States come into the War against Hitler and Mussolini. The signing by President Roosevelt of the actual declaration of war on Germany and Italy. A scrap of paper Hitler will never be able to tear up.

In a nation-wide radio hook-up, the President speaks to his ~~people~~ people.