

Radio Broadcast

The Amphibious Force is now in the twelfth day of the ^{ground} operations for the capture of Iwo Jima. It has been an uphill pull all the way, because the island is strongly fortified, and ^{is} defended by enemies who neither give ground nor yield. They prefer to die in their places, and they are doing just that.

Our men of all services are fighting well. They are fighting with skill, determination, and splendid courage. They have refused to permit obstacles to stop them. I am glad to be able to say that our troops, strongly supported as they are by air and naval forces, are now over the hump. The rest of the battle will be a down hill drive. The end is in sight, and it will be in our favor.

It would be a mistake to think that this is a battle fought by the Amphibious Forces alone. These forces, which seize and hold territory, are only one part of the great Fifth Fleet, whose carriers, battleships, cruisers, and destroyers have been covering our operations by direct attacks on the Japanese homeland. And the Fifth Fleet itself is but a part of the forces of the Pacific Ocean Areas, which also include the submarines, the shore-based air, and the ~~the~~ ^{great} auxiliary fleet of the Service Force. Cooperating with us in this effort are General MacArthur's forces; our aircraft in China; and the British and American military power in India. So this battle for the one small island of Iwo, worthless except for its military significance, really extends over half the area of the globe. So, likewise, will our future offensives in the Pacific be ~~a~~ vast coordinated movements that will take us through to victory.