

Dr. Edward N. Tihen (1924-1991) was an avid reader and researcher of Wichita newspapers. His notes from Wichita newspapers -- the "Tihen Notes," as we call them -- provide an excellent starting point for further research. They present brief synopses of newspaper articles, identify the newspaper -- Eagle, Beacon or Eagle-Beacon -- in which the stories first appeared, and give exact references to the pages on which the articles are found. Microfilmed copies of these newspapers are available at the Wichita State University Libraries, the Wichita Public Library, or by interlibrary loan from the Kansas State Historical Society.

Subject(s): B-29, Superfortress

WICHITA EAGLE

Saturday, August 21, 1943

page

5. Short article reports Associated Press dispatch referring to mention in a recent issue of "Yank," an army weekly publication of a new *Super-fortress*, the **B-29**, which is being built and will have a greater bomb carrying capacity and longer range than any existing bomber. (First mention in Wichita paper??)

Friday, October 15, 1943

page

5. Article quotes Associated Press dispatch from Washington yesterday saying that a new super-bomber is being delivered to the Army air forces and will be in combat in 1944. It has been identified by the army weekly "Yank" in a recent article as the **B-29**. Details.

Sunday, January 2, 1944

page

1. Official announcement yesterday stated that the Boeing Airplane Company's Wichita plant delivered 74 percent more **B-29** super bombers to the army air forces than the number delivered in November.

Friday, May 5, 1944

page

5. National aviation writers are in Wichita today to tour the Boeing plant and be introduced to the new **B-29** bomber. Details.

Friday, June 16, 1944

page

1. Associated Press dispatch dated June 15 reports attack by United States **B-29** bombers on Japanese homeland from bases in China. Photo of **B-29** with Culver Cadet alongside on page 7 (probably first photo of **B-29** in a Wichita newspaper).

Saturday, July 29, 1944

page

5. The 10,000th Kaydet primary trainer was delivered to the armed forces by Boeing yesterday. Details. Photo alongside **B-29**.

Thursday, February 15, 1945**page**

1. The 1000th Boeing **B-29** and the 10346th and last Boeing Kaydet trainer produced in the Wichita plant were delivered to the army air forces at a ceremony at the Boeing plant yesterday. Details.

Tuesday, April 10, 1945**page**

1. The Boeing plant in Seattle yesterday ceased production of the B-17 Flying Fortress after producing 6981 of them, and henceforth will build the **B-29 Superfortress**. Of the B-17s built in Seattle, 6802 were built since Pearl Harbor.

Saturday, June 9, 1945**page**

5. The Cessna Aircraft Company discontinued its second shift at the end of the shift last night and will revert to a five day work week in line with the cut-back in aircraft production announced in Washington since V-E day. The company is building parts for **B-29s**, A-26s, and C-82s. Details.

Friday, June 15, 1945**page**

5. Boeing-Wichita announced that it has built 1400 completed **B-29s** and spare parts equivalent to another 124 bombers, making the equivalent of a total of 1524 bombers. Including the Seattle-Renton facilities, Boeing has built a total of 2075 **B-29s** plus the equivalent of 149 additional planes in spare parts.

Friday, August 17, 1945**page**

5. Production of **B-29s** at Boeing-Wichita plant is to be cut back. The company will go ahead and complete its full quota of 100 **B-29s** for the month of August, but the schedule for September calls for a reduction to 60 deliveries; which may wind up scheduled deliveries of **B-29s** at Wichita under existing contracts. However some spare parts and assemblies may be produced here in connection with a continuing **B-29** program at the Boeing-Seattle plant.

Sunday, August 26, 1945**page**

15. Article summarizes at length the production by Boeing's Wichita plant. ¶ Includes total

of 10,346 equivalent primary trainers, or 44 percent of all primary trainers, with 13 other plants combined producing the other 56 percent. ¶ A total of 1665 completed **B-29s** plus 125 equivalent **B-29s** in spare parts, making a total of 40 percent of the combined total of all four **B-29** plants. ¶ Parts and assemblies for B-17s built at Boeing-Seattle. ¶ A total of 750 CG-4 gliders used in the invasion of Europe.

Wednesday, September 5, 1945

page

2. Boeing Airplane Company officials yesterday received a telephoned directive from the army air forces calling for immediate suspension of all **B-29** manufacturing operations at the Boeing-Wichita plants. The previous schedule called for delivery of 100 **B-29s** in August and 60 in September. The August schedule has been met and 45 of the 60 planes for September are completed.

Wednesday, December 12, 1945

page

1. A **B-29** yesterday set a new transcontinental speed record from Burbank, California to LaGuardia Field, New York, covering the 2464 miles in 5 hours, 31 minutes, and 44 seconds at an average speed of nearly 450 miles per hour.

Saturday, December 29, 1945

page

5. Boeing is installing one million dollars worth of new equipment in Plant Number 1 and in February will employ about 2000 employes for production of parts for the Stratocruiser and revised **B-29** parts.

Sunday, March 28, 1948

page

1. Boeing announced yesterday that it expects to hire 1000 additional workers in the next 30 days and to reactivate a portion of Plant Number 2 for modernizing of **B-29s**, etc. No new aircraft will be produced. Details.

Monday, March 29, 1948

page

8. Full page Boeing ad for 1000 skilled employees with aerial photo of Boeing plants during **B-29** production.

Friday, May 7, 1948

page

1. Boeing's Wichita plant is now employing 3000 workers, 1300 of whom have been hired since the work of opening Plant 2 started a month ago. Present plans call for a steady expansion of this number to 6 to 7000 workers by August 1. Thirty five **B-29s**

and five B-50s have already flown to Wichita to be worked on. Details. Photo.