By Thomas R. Guillermou

"The Longest Day" is a total disappointment. In three long
hours of film it is never exciting. Its scenes are so badly
matched and its many humorous incidents so badly timed
that events often lose their meaning. Most scenes are
pointless. While perhaps the overall plan of D-Day can be
grasped, the purpose of each bat
tle, each order is never clearly
understood. The battles are usual-
ly too confusing to know whilst
fighting whom or who's going
where. The armies often look like
dolphins against destroying Nazi
ly wood studios.

"The Longest Day" lacks so much depth that it gives the im-
pression that war is a game. The
horror of war is never revealed.
The anxiety before and through-
out D-Day is never present. Death
seems to have no significance,
since it is often missed with onepro-
cy (e.g. Jeff Hunter killed in a
furby by Robert Mitchum drive-
ing his car). Most of the time the
war is viewed from the eyes of officers. The German officers don't take
the war seriously. The Allies' offi-
cers are all clowns, suppressing
slabs with some peculiarity which
will win the sympathy of the audi-
cience (e.g. Robert Mitchum
and his cigar, the Scotch general
and his dog). The few attempts to pic-
ture the war from the soldier's
viewpoint are unsuccessful. The
story is sometimes from the over-
view and sometimes because the
soldiers happen to be Fabian,
Paul Anka, Tommy Sands, whose
ability to portray themselves has
never been questioned.

On the whole, the film
is said to hold that
war can be fun and that
D-Day was successful by sheer
luck, the most stressed point being
German mistakes. Why is it that
"The Longest Day" has missed
its point so completely? The an-
swer is that Darryl Zanuck has not
tried to give an honest account
of D-Day. He has more attempted
to make a show like "Around the
World in 80 Days," with a subject
not fit for such a show. A half
hour, half of which time is spent
in getting around, is supposed to be
the film. The whole film is a
boring disaster. The most crucial
points of the film are never ade-
sately covered in the film. The
scene on the beach seemed very amusing in places.

Zanuck has used 5 directors, in
which only W vitto shows. Most
of the scenes occur too slow.
In the wrong way of film to be of
interest, and the very few good
scenes (e.g. that at the pu-
ch-boards falling in the sea and
getting shot immediately,
while Red Buttons without
hanging from a bellboy) are
from the lack of coordination between them. To in-
his I will say that the music
Paul Anka and Mitch Miller vi-
ably had or would be expected.

Bowers To Lecture
On Japanese Theatre

Fashion Bowers will lecture
night on "The Japanese Times
with Robert Mitchum."

An authority on Oriental drama,
Mr. Bowers will discuss the
Japanese Theatre, its na-
and the popular, more
Japanese style. The lecture will be
at Hasty University in Tor-
yo and was Center of the The-
atre under the occupation govern-
ment.