

ESTABLISHED 1888

U.S. FORCES MEET JAP ATTACKS

JAPS IN NEW GUINEA AUSTRALIAN TERRITORY

Troops Reach New Guinea And Solomons

Australian Mainland Fearful
That Bombers Will Come

MELBOURNE, Australia.—(AP)—Sea-borne Japanese troops have invaded Australian territory, landing presumably under cover of naval guns and carrier-based aircraft on New Guinea and in the northernmost Solomon Islands 2,500 miles from Tokyo, it was announced officially today.

On the mainland of Australia, new within close bomber range of the Japanese landings, blackouts were ordered in all cities, military maneuvers were ordered from Britain, and the national holiday, Australia Day, Jan. 24, was canceled under emergency defense regulations.

Where the Japanese landed on half-Australian, half-Dutch New Guinea directly north of Australia was not disclosed immediately. Deputy Prime Minister P. M. Forde announced that the landings continued landing in the Bismarck Archipelago east of New Guinea at Milne Bay, principal city on the island, and at the northern end of the Solomon Island chain.

Forde declared Australia was facing "the most serious threat in her history," but said that with the help of her Allies, she would meet the challenge.

Eight Jap Warships And Transports Hit

Dutch Bombers Lash at Enemy
Craft in Macassar Straits

BATAVIA, N.E.I.—(AP)—Dutch heavy bombers and dive-bombers scored twelve direct hits on eight Japanese warships and transports in the Macassar Straits between the islands of Borneo and Celebes, it was announced officially today.

A communication released through the news agency Arita said 600-pound bombs were dropped directly on a large warship, a heavy cruiser, a smaller cruiser and three transports. The Dutch suffered no losses, it was announced.

(Such a force of Japanese warships attacking the Japanese might be sending a fleet of transports, perhaps to Bala Papan, on the east coast of Borneo, where the Dutch have destroyed valuable oil wells and all stores.)

The Netherlands East Indies Command announced in its regular communiqué that Dutch aircraft yesterday attacked Kuching, Japanese-occupied capital of Sarawak, again bombing storage yards which were set on fire.

AIRBORNE ATTACKED
The Dutch also said 27 enemy fighters attacked the airport at Palembang, on the island of Sumatra, this morning and wounded two persons.

During a light bombardment at Sabang, an island off the northern tip of Sumatra, a small Japanese ship was sunk, the Dutch said. They added attempts to bomb two more ships failed.

Yank Birdmen in Action:

U. S., British Fliers Knock Third Of 60-Plane Jap Raid Force Down

RANGOON, Burma.—(AP)—American and British fighters smashed mass air raids by more than 60 Japanese planes on the Rangoon area today and shot down about one-third of the attacking force.

British Hurl Full Weight Into Drive In Malaya

Press Savage
Counter-Attack

SINGAPORE.—(AP)—British, Australian and Indian soldiers who have checked the main Japanese Army for three days threw their full and desperate weight today into a tremendous counter-offensive which blazed some 50 miles across the state of Johore.

Artillery crashed on the eastern Malay coast; forward troops were fighting the Japanese in the center and in western Malaya, which held the greatest threat to the coastal regions in the Bala Papan area, 60 miles northwest of Singapore, but the main action was being fought out around Bukit Payong, a hill area some nine miles north of Bukit Pahal.

The Japanese were throwing planes over all sections of the front and once more rained Singapore, where in the last three days their bombs have been officially credited with killing 426 persons and wounding 1,562.

PINER ACTION
A military commentator in London said the Japanese invasions eastward from the Bala Papan area likely meant an attempt at a pincer movement to join with other Japanese forces seeking to cross the British back to the central sector. He added the British positions appeared relatively unchanged, with the heaviest fighting under way in the Bala Papan sector.

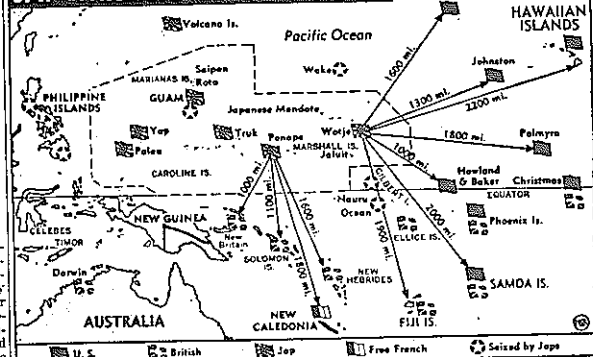
Based on the official British report today, the front ranging from 50 to 70 or more miles above Singapore, shaped up roughly as follows:

From the western anchor around Batu Pahal eastward to the Chian area in the center, about 70 miles north of Singapore, and some 25 miles northwest of Kuching, the front was held by the British and the Japanese pushed down the coast from the eastern coast, 65 miles north of Singapore.

The Far East Command said British artillery has been "actively harassing" the Japanese in the Mering area.

Australians have studied every bit of the ground in the area, he said, and forward elements in contact with the Japanese and fighting was in progress.

JAP THREATS IN MID-PACIFIC



The Australian mainland faced the threat of an invasion attempt today as Japanese forces struck far and wide in the Pacific. The map shows the island clusters which the Japs are trying to use as a stepping stone to Australia and also to cut American communications to the Far East.

Axis Offensive In Libya Gains

Rommel's Army Re-Takes Agadabia
In Long Thrust

By PRESTON GROVER
CAIRO.—(AP)—Gen. Erwin Rommel's mechanized desert army, apparently making a desperate new bid for Axis reconquest of eastern Libya, has recaptured Agadabia in a thrust 90 miles northeast of El Agheila where the Axis forces made their stand.

Plan 33,000 New Planes

Call for Funds
Made to House

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—An unprecedented \$12,552,474 appropriation for 33,000 new war planes was approved by the House today and sent to the Senate.

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—The House today approved a \$12,552,474 appropriation for 33,000 new planes to help achieve control of the air over the Russian front, the Mediterranean and the Pacific for the United States and its Allies.

Opening debate on the unprecedented appropriation—the largest single military fund in the history of Congress—Chairman Cannon, Democrat, Missouri, of the House Appropriations Committee told his colleagues:

"The whole issue of this war centered on taking and holding the air in every theater of the war. 'Until we have secured control over the Russian front, the Mediterranean and the Pacific we can not begin our first step toward winning the war.'"

Cannon said the fact that the measure was ready for debate only four days after President Roosevelt requested indicated the "unity and unanimity of Congress and the American people in support of the Administration and of the defense program."

Will Make Rio Decision

To Be Made With or
Without Argentina

By JOHN F. MCKNIGHT
RIO DE JANEIRO.—(AP)—A high conference source said today that representatives of the Axis powers would decide on the severance of relations with the Axis this afternoon—with or without Argentina.

The Argentine Foreign Minister, Dr. Enrique Ruiz Guinazu, conferred for half an hour with the heads of Brazilian and United States delegations a short time earlier, and it was reported that the representatives of the Axis powers would be present.

The counter-proposal, these sources said, had been drafted by Ramon S. Castillo, acting President of Argentina. The Argentines yesterday balked at the present wording of the conference's anti-Axis resolution.

Ruiz Guinazu first talked with the Germans in abandoning Mozhaisk, 33 miles west of Moscow, their last to get away. Many miles were found under important guns were still unexploded.

11 Die in Raid On English Town

The bombs fell in a congested working class area. Although the Nazi plane was over the town for only a few seconds, anti-aircraft batteries were believed to have scored a hit.

Promissory Note
INDIANAPOLIS.—(AP)—A burglar who took \$11 from Mrs. Zimmerman's home last night, promised to return the money with interest.

Navy, Facing Problem Without Parallel, Continues To Carry On

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—Those who have wondered why the American Navy has not taken a broad offensive action against Japan in the Pacific since the attack on Pearl Harbor today in the official "report to the nation" by the Government's newly created Office of Pacific Affairs.

All Assaults In Philippine Area Stopped

Japs Trying To Crush American-
Filipino Forces at Any Costs

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—General Douglas MacArthur reported in the War Department today the repulse of all Japanese attacks on the Batan Peninsula in the Philippines which he said had been extremely heavy in the past 24 hours.

The War Department said in a communiqué that apparently the enemy was making continuous assaults without regard to losses with intent to crush the American-Filipino defenders by sheer force of numbers.

Japanese assault troops have been strongly reinforced, the communiqué said. Meanwhile reports from the southern Philippine island of Mindanao, more than 500 miles south of the struggle on Luzon, were that the Japanese had organized a local military force composed of some 10,000 Japanese residents of that locality.

Dayao, on Mindanao, is a city populated largely by Japanese, who for years have dominated the production of rubber and copra. Early in the invasion the Japanese made Dayao a base for offensive operations against Borneo and other parts of the Netherlands East Indies.

Reds 23 Miles West Of Mozhaisk

Pursue Germans at Fast Clip Along
Napoleon's Road of Disaster

MOSCOW.—(AP)—Russians pursuing the German forces in flight from the Mozhaisk salient before Moscow were pushing 23 miles west of Mozhaisk, establishing a rate of advance of from six to seven miles a day since Mozhaisk was taken.

The Red Army was reported in many localities, the triumphs their forebears scored against Napoleon in 1812.

NAZI PLANS LEFT
Pravda, Moscow newspaper, said the Germans in abandoning Mozhaisk, 33 miles west of Moscow, their last to get away. Many miles were found under important guns were still unexploded.

The War On All Fronts

By ROGER D. GREENE
Associated Press War Editor
Japan's march of conquest since directly toward Australia today as sea-borne Japanese troops landed in New Guinea, the Solomon Islands and probably New Britain in a sweeping jeopard not only the land "Down Under" but also United States routes to the Pacific war zone.

In general, the news was dark from all fronts in the Pacific conflict, relieved only by word from Washington that the United States was beginning to pour a stream of reinforcements into the war zone.

WEATHER
Continued cold with higher temperature tonight

Today's Temp.: H. 58; L. 34
Sunset Today 5:02
Sunrise Tomorrow 7:17
Additional U. S. Weather Bureau data will be found on page 2.

Note to Readers
Dispatches from Berlin, Rome, Tokyo and other enemy countries are published by The News with the understanding that they frequently contain statements intended to mislead the public. Such statements should be read with caution and not be taken as fact.