

U.S. BOMBERS BATTER JAP SHIPS SUBMARINE APPEARS OFF TEXAS COAST

U-Boat Toll Grows; 374 Missing in One Sinking

'German' Craft in Gulf of Mexico

Axis submarines, ranging from the Eastern American coast from the Gulf of Mexico to Northern Canadian waters, have sunk at least fourteen American and Allied ships since the undersea raiders appeared off Nova Scotia Jan. 12.

Latest announced loss of the torpedoing of a large Allied passenger liner carrying 450 passengers and crew from Bermuda to an eastern port. Only 71 have been saved, five bodies recovered and 274 persons are missing from the liner.

As this blow was announced the Navy at Corpus Christi, Texas, said that submarine "definitely German" had been sighted fifteen miles from Fort Aransas and that possibly another U-boat was in the vicinity.

This announcement followed upon last night's report of a U-boat's sinking the "Odeon" Canadian tanker Francis E. Powell off Lewis, Del., with an indicated loss of 120 lives.

TANKERS' FATE IN DOUBT The fate of another American tanker, the Pan-Maine, 7,227 tons, remained in doubt following a radio report yesterday afternoon that she was being attacked. The Pan-Maine carried 30 men.

Twenty-three survivors from a Greek freighter and a Norwegian tanker arrived at an eastern Canadian port last night, and reported that 51 men were missing or dead in successful attacks on the ships.

Official Navy statements list eight ships sunk off the eastern American coast in fourteen days. These ships, totaling 58,445 tons, went down with a loss of 90 lives while 215 men were saved in widespread rescues.

Two American ships totaling 7,000 tons were sunk on Jan. 11.

Hurley Sent to New Zealand WASHINGTON, (AP)—The nomination of Patrick J. Hurley, Secretary of the War Relocation Administration, to Minister to New Zealand, was submitted to the Senate today by President Roosevelt.

It was assumed that Hurley already had reached his post, since the White House had announced that the nomination was being considered.

Japs Attempt To Strangarm Bolivia LA PAZ, Bolivia, (AP)—Informal sources said today that Japanese charges of affairs, had delivered a note to the Bolivian Foreign Office hinting that Japan might blockade the South American coast and halt Bolivia's overseas trade if she severed relations with the Axis.

Navy Doing Big Job Of Fighting "One Indivisible, Total Enemy" CHICAGO, (AP)—Secretary Frank Knox pictured the United States Navy today as engaged in a gigantic job of protection and fighting "in all the seas and all the oceans" against "one indivisible, total enemy" the world over.

Funeral Rites For Justice Clarkson Are Conducted

Tribute Is Paid To Noted Judge

From all over North Carolina today important figures were coming to Charlotte to pay tribute to Judge Heriot Clarkson, Senior Associate Justice of the State Supreme Court, who died suddenly in his old home town yesterday afternoon while visiting his children here, and whose funeral was held at 4:30 o'clock this afternoon.

Honorary pallbearers were Governor J. M. Broughton, State officials, the members of the Supreme Court, Federal Judges, the Charlotte bar and the vestry of St. Peter's Episcopal Church. His remains were buried here.

Judge and Mrs. Clarkson came to the home of their son, Francis C. Clarkson, in Eastover, Friday from Raleigh. On Saturday the Judge went to their mountain home, where he died. It is feared he over-exerted. He returned here Sunday not feeling well and expressed the desire for

34 Miners Perish In Colorado Blast Only Four Escape Alive; Deadly Gas Halts Rescue Work

MOUNT HARRIS, Colo. (AP)—Thirty-four miners perished in an explosion in the Victor American Fuel Company coal mine late last night. Only four men escaped.

Black damp, deadly carbon dioxide gas, filled the shaft after the blast and impeded the work of rescue crews, unable to reach the victims for nearly six hours.

Nazi Flanks Threatened MOSCOW (AP)—The capture of 15 more towns was reported today in dispatches from the Russian front which said the Red Army was pushing the Germans westward and southwest of Moscow at the threshold of a double defense line to which the Germans were retreating.

On the basis of previous information on the Soviet front, it was estimated that the offensive extends from near Veliki Laki to the Vyasma region, thence to the Bryansk area and behind the other fronts.

Reds Smash at Double Defense Line By EDDY GILMORE MOSCOW (AP)—The capture of 15 more towns was reported today in dispatches from the Russian front which said the Red Army was pushing the Germans westward and southwest of Moscow at the threshold of a double defense line to which the Germans were retreating.

British Smash Brest, Boulogne Docks Again LONDON (AP)—British air raiders blasted the oft-bombed docks at Brest and Boulogne on the German coast last night, the Air Ministry announced today.

Evacuation Movement Started at Singapore Civilians, Stock Leave Strip SINGAPORE (AP)—Orders were issued today for the evacuation by noon Friday of all civilians and live-stock from a strip one mile deep on the Northern shore of Singapore Island which faces the Malayan mainland across the narrow Johore Strait.

Churchill To Get Vote Assurance Comes Amid Commons Attack

LONDON (AP)—The Government was accused today of mistaking the opinion of the Commons as to the vote of confidence that the Prime Minister's declaration in London yesterday that "imperial forces would fight to the last inch of territory" and "more had been

The night communique indicated that the front, at least for the moment, was holding firm.

It said there was no change in the situation in the sector between Arden and Kluge, the railroad center 50 miles to the north, and that there were no reports of further enemy landings at Dunkirk, where the German offensive was held yesterday.

They say activity has been slight, the communique added.

MIXED FEELING Prime Minister Churchill's declaration in London yesterday that "imperial forces would fight to the last inch of territory" and "more had been

Japan's invasion hordes drove steadily southward from the island stronghold, amid the heaviest fighting of the Malayan campaign.

A British spokesman said that Japanese troops knifing southward from the Kluang center, in Central Malaya, were pressing the nearest threat to Singapore, the island stronghold, and the heaviest fighting of the Malayan campaign.

Twenty-seven Japanese bombers returned to the assault on Singapore last night, attacking a suburban area.

STRIKE HARD AT BUTCH TERROR Other Japanese raiders struck heavily at the port of Emuabawa on the west coast of Dutch Sumatra, across the narrow Malacca Strait from Malacca, last night, and damaging a third ship.

The Dutch command acknowledged that the Japanese apparently had landed at the center of Balikpapan, East Borneo port on Macassar Strait, and that the island had been hit by incendiary bombs.

The Dutch also conceded loss of communication with the city of Kendari, on the southeast coast of Celebes island, but declared that strong resistance was being exerted against the invaders.

It was also reported that the Japanese had bombed the airbase and storage yards at Japanese-held Ruching, capital of Celebes island, but declared that strong resistance was being exerted against the invaders.

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Report Thousands Of Japs Drowned

American Bombers Sink Transport and Hit Cruiser In Attacks on Convoy Lured Into Trap

By ROGER D. GREENE Associated Press War Editor

American fliers were officially credited today with striking furious new blows at a Japanese invasion armada trapped in Macassar Strait, where 25,000 to 30,000 Japanese were said to have drowned already, while U. S. "Flying Tiger" volunteer pilots probably wiped out one-third of a 37-plane Japanese formation over Rangoon, Burma.

A Dutch East Indies communique said giant four-motor U. S. bombers sank a big Japanese transport, left another in flames and straddled a cruiser with sticks of bombs in the 400-mile Macassar Strait north of Java.

A War Department bulletin said a formation of eight U. S. Army bombers engaged in the attack, in which one of the bombers was "lost."

A direct hit was scored on the cruiser. Prudence from Japan's strategic naval disaster of the war, United States fliers thus boosted by at least 36 the number of Japanese ships sunk or damaged in a three-day battle.

Macassar Strait, the roadway to Java, headquarters of General Archibald P. Wavell's United Nations Command, has been the Dutch East Borneo and Celebes island.

NEE communique acknowledged that the Japanese had apparently captured the burned-out

Americans Knock Jap Planes Down Attempt of Jap Fighters To Intercept Bombers Meets Trouble

BATAVIA, N.E.I.—(AP)—Huge American four-motor bombers sank another big Japanese transport yesterday in the Strait of Macassar, set a second transport afire, splashed bombs around a cruiser, and out-ran Japanese fighter planes which tried to break up their attack, the United Nations command disclosed today.

Thus the toll in the first five days of the battle for the hot sea lane between Sumatra and Celebes was boosted to at least sixteenth transport and supply laden ships sunk or badly damaged, and at least eleven Japanese warships sent to the bottom or badly smashed.

FIGHTING POWER SHOWN The night-fighting power of the big American planes was stressed in the United Nations headquarters communique which said "Japanese fighter aircraft which attempted to intercept our bombers were roughly handled."

Whether the Japanese were damaged—or to what extent—was not specified. The communique said only that the cruiser "was closely straddled with several sticks of bombs."

Another reported that optimism throughout the Netherlands Indies had been increased by the participation of American air reinforcements in the fighting and by the successful Allied operations against Japanese shipping in the Strait of Macassar.

The news agency said optimism also was generated by Prime Minister Churchill's statement in the House of Commons assured.

Nazis Continue Reign of Terror VICHY, Unoccupied France.—(AP)—The Germans, announcing that four Frenchmen were shot in one group today, cited "De Gaulle activities" as one of the charges for the first time.

Another Frenchman, name not given and offense not stated, was shot in the same group before a firing squad at Marseille.

The four were the largest number of men sent to death in one group by German occupation authorities in France so far this year. All were residents of Paris.

Famed Hawaiian Foliage In Full Bloom--But It Hides Weapons

By WENDELL WEBB HONOLULU, (AP)—A hundred miles out of the back country of Oahu Island today disclosed that the U. S. Army is preparing formidable defenses for the Hawaiian Islands.

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Hint Allied Field Forces To Strike

U. S., Britain May Send Expeditions Out in Surprise Thrusts

WASHINGTON (AP)—Another big Japanese transport has fallen victim to American Army bombers in the Battle of Macassar Strait, the War Department reported today, while long range plans for surprise army expedition by the United Nations continue to take shape.

Whether this action was separate from a similar one recounted by the United Nations High Command at Batavia, in the Netherlands Indies, was not definitely known.

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WEATHER

Color this afternoon and tonight... Today's Temp. H. 45; L. Sunset Today. Sunrise Tomorrow.

Note to Readers: Dispatches from... Please note that the date will be found on page 1.