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Newspaper
In The
Carolinas

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

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Final

ESTABLISHED 1888

CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1942

32 Pages—Price Five Cents

British 'Chutists And Sea-Borne Infantry Raid France

ALLIES RAISE JAP FLEET

Order Court Martials For Gen. Short & Admiral Kimmel

Hit And Run Invasion Is Successful

British Withdraw After Attacking
Nazi Radio Detector Post

LONDON (AP)—Daring British parachutists and sea-borne infantry combined today in a destructive incursion on the northern French coast since the fall of France.

Under cover of a protecting umbrella of Royal Air Force fighters and with Navy assistance the raiders then withdrew.

London quarters viewed the "hit and run" raid as possibly the first of a series planned to harass the Germans at various points in the west, thus forcing them to keep strong garrisons in the occupied territories. In it the British turned from defensive strategy by land to offensive warfare.

Although an official spokesman declined to give the length of the operation, he suggested the special task was to be carried out on the western tip of the British Peninsula.

Timed to the minute, the parachutists dropped out of the clouds to form a small assault group against the German garrison at the same time that infantry, ferried across the English Channel, landed on the beach.

ONE-TWO PUNCH—The two detachments which a military spokesman said could not be assumed to be joining forces, the two detachments which a military spokesman said could not be assumed to be joining forces, the two detachments which a military spokesman said could not be assumed to be joining forces.

Seek To Bottle Up
Nazi Naval Forces

RAF Bombers Raid Kiel, Wilhelmshaven in Search of Escaped Ships

LONDON—British bombers seeking out the berths of the already damaged 26,000-ton German battleships Gneisenau and Scharnhorst struck by moonlight last night at the great naval bases of Kiel and Wilhelmshaven in a developing campaign to hold the Nazi fleet at home and prevent it from escaping.

The raid, described as effective because of an improvement in weather over the continent, was the third in succession in which the Gneisenau is reported in a floating dock. The Scharnhorst is reported at Wilhelmshaven.

The bombing was regarded in London as the first of a series planned to immobilize the German fleet, prevent it from escaping to the North Sea, and to ease the battle of the Atlantic further by a repeated pounding of bases that would hamper the servicing of submarines.

Weather, which has held the RAF down for weeks has let up, one informed source said. "North Atlantic weather" is now reported as the major objective.

Scatter Axis
Desert Patrols

CAIRO, Egypt—Strong Axis patrols, including tanks in at least one case, were shelled and dispersed by British Imperials yesterday in eastern Libya. General Headquarters announced to the British had substantial air support in this action, a communiqué said.

It said that "due to improved mobility, patrol activity on both sides was on a much wider scale yesterday."

CUT OFF LIGHTS
Regional offices were asked to obtain immediate nightly extinguishment of all lights which could not be turned off quickly. The request was decided on by the OGD in consultation with military officials and was on a voluntary basis.

However, the OGD explained that any of the Axis's intercom or radio broadcasts when needed, blackouts when needed.

Charges Laid Against Men In Charge At Hawaii

Pearl Harbor
Aftermath

WASHINGTON (AP)—Trials by court martial were ordered today for Major General Walter C. Short and Rear Admiral Husband E. Kimmel, commanders in charge of Hawaii at the time of the successful surprise attack by the Japanese on Pearl Harbor.

Secretary of War Stimson and Secretary of Navy Knox made the announcement.

Stimson said that brief announcement that on the basis of the findings of the Roberts inquiry commission he had directed the preparation of charges alleging dereliction of duty.

This was the charge made against Admiral Kimmel. Short and Kimmel have been without assignment since they were ordered relieved from their posts by President Roosevelt ten days after the surprise air raid on the Pacific outpost.

ALLOWED TO RETIRE
Short's application for voluntary retirement was accepted, effective today, "without condemnation of any offense or prejudice to any future disciplinary action."

Kimmel's retirement likewise has been accepted, effective March 1.

The trial, it was said, will be held under "the public interest and safety" permit.

The War Department's announcement said:

"The Secretary of War announced today the acceptance, effective Feb. 28, 1942, of the application for retirement of Major General Walter C. Short, without condemnation of any offense or prejudice to any future disciplinary action."

The Secretary of War announced at the same time that, based on the findings of the report of the Roberts Commission, he had directed the preparation of charges against the two commanders in charge of Hawaii at the time of the surprise attack.

However, that the trial upon these charges would not be held until after the trial of the Japanese.

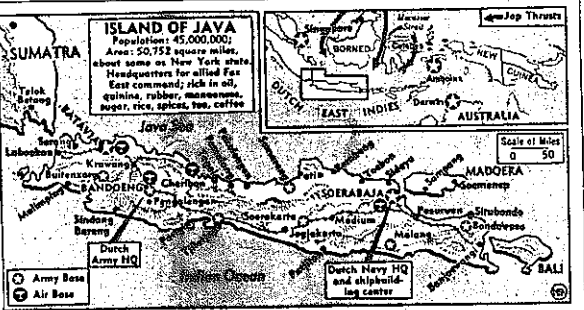
Three-Year-Old
Boy Kills Baby

NEWARK, N. J.—Police listed a three-year-old boy today as a killer, saying he had admitted after hours of coaxing that he twice slammed a baby to the floor.

The boy, who is named Robert, was charged with the killing of a three-year-old boy, who died from the same blow.

The dead baby was Albert Ross, eight-month-old son of Mrs. Margaret Ross, who had brought him home from the hospital Thursday.

Police took the boy to his parents' home, where he was held in custody. Both families involved were Newarkers.



BATTLE THUNDERS OFF JAVA—United Nations (including American) naval and air forces fought fiercely to beat off a Japanese armada off the northeastern coast of Java. First phase of the battle resulted in victory for the Allies.

U. S. Effort To Get Wake Back Indicated

TOKYO, (AP)—From Japanese broadcasts (AP)—Imperial Headquarters said today that the Japanese had decided to "reclaim" the island of Wake, which was captured by the United States in 1941.

The Japanese claim was the first indication of a naval raid on the island since it was captured by the Japanese in 1941.

The Japanese said they had a hard-fighting battle with the United States forces, who had set up a strong defensive position on the island.

It acknowledged only the loss of a Japanese patrol boat, slight damage to land installations on the island, and casualties—some of them fatal—to several Japanese soldiers.

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Ships Retreat But New Blow At Java Looms

Sorely-Wounded Fleet Believed
Reforming for Second Attack

By WITT HANCOCK

BANDOENG, Java—(AP)—Warships of the United Nations flung back today an attempt by a huge fleet of Japanese warships and transports to storm the Soerabaja naval base and invade Java, but tonight the armada was believed reforming somewhere in the Java Sea for a second onslaught.

Battered and scrambled in a night-long battle, the Japanese warships and their train of many transports retreated northward, and at 8:30 P. M. (8 A. M. E. W. T.) the quasi-official Anela news agency said "it may be stated with absolute certainty there has been no landing of Japanese troops anywhere on Java."

Action at sea still was being fought late this afternoon, but informed United Nations sources here said the bulk of the invasion fleet apparently was in the process of reorganizing for a renewed attempt to land troops, probably in the vicinity of the naval base.

AIR ABARM
The approach of the Japanese sea force was preceded by repeated air raid alarms at Soerabaja, but each time the Japanese planes were driven off by anti-aircraft fire before any bombs could be dropped.

The Dutch said "several tens of ships," in the continental equivalent to "scores" were in the invaders' strongly-protected convoy, first scattered and then pursued by the Allied warships.

The first unofficial reaction in Bandoeng was that the communiques were the most cheering since the battle for Java—and therefore for The Netherlands East Indies—began.

Twice before the United States and Dutch fleets have teamed to inflict resounding defeats on the Japanese sea power—in Macassar Strait and in the Strait of Lombok off Bali.

LOSSES ON BOTH SIDES
The Dutch said there were losses on both sides in the Java sea fight, which began late yesterday and raged into the night. But early accounts did not give the extent.

In other areas, the communiques reported Dutch successes in fighting on the Southern Celebes, northeast of Java, in central Sumatra, where the Japanese are attempting to consolidate their positions for an assault on western Java, and on the half-Dutch, half-Portuguese island of Timor east of Java.

The Dutch said their troops had inflicted serious losses on the Japanese on Timor.

The war report also told of raids on the port of Batavia and an airfield in western Java.

But it was the massed battle of Java Sea which held the attention of the Dutch and their allies.

Word that the enemy fleets had met and that the important engagement was on was flashed without detail by the Dutch through Anela, Indies news agency.

(The U. S. Navy Department in Washington announced that Vice-Admiral C. F. Hilditch, acting commander of the ABDA naval forces in the Southwest Pacific, had informed it that "certain United States naval units are involved" in the Java Sea fight. The U. S. Navy, too, knew "none of the results as yet.")

The Java Sea lies between the island of Java, last Allied stronghold in the Netherlands East Indies, and Borneo, where the Japanese have landed.

There are two likely approaches for the Japanese, now that Singapore has fallen. Their warships might have

Patrol Skirmishes On Bataan Front

MacArthur's Warriors Hold
Positions Taken in Advance

WASHINGTON (AP)—Fighting on the Bataan Peninsula has dwindled to patrol skirmishes, the War Department said today, reporting General Douglas MacArthur's little army had retained the positions wrested from the Japanese in this week's surprise advance.

The communiqué said the invaders still held their main battle positions, the American-Philippine advance having pushed back only forward lines of the enemy.

The communiqué, number 126, covering reports received until 3 P. M. Eastern War Time, said: "Philippine lines: 'Patrols have been maintained in Bataan, with operations limited to relatively minor patrol skirmishes. General MacArthur's troops are holding advance positions taken during the last few days of combat. The forward elements of our troops are holding a line which extends from slightly north of Abucay and Manila Bay across the Bataan Peninsula to a point on the China Sea midway between Bagay and Corcoran.'"

The Japanese are still holding their main battle positions, the communiqué said. It did not report from other areas.

At Abucay, MacArthur's forces were approximately 20 miles from the maximum advance of the peninsula's tip, opposite the fortress island of Corregidor safeguarding Manila Bay. At Abucay the defenders pushed northward five miles along a road to score the maximum advance of the unit expected mid-week counter-attack.

SEND US 11 COPIES OF "America Goes To War," writes a professor from Appalachian State Teachers College.

Note to Readers
Dispatches from Berlin, Rome, Tokyo and other enemy countries are published by the News with the caution that they frequently contain false and misleading information for propaganda purposes. This should be taken into consideration when reading the stories credited to Axis sources.

Reds Down Transports

Filled With Fresh
Troops From Germany

On the Soviet front, German planes today said the Russians were shooting down giant Nazi transport planes jammed with troops from training in Germany for Adolf Hitler's heralded big Spring offensive—now being called off to the front in a desperate attempt to reinforce and save the German 16th Army trapped near Stalingrad.

Soviet front-line dispatches said Red Army gunners and fliers were blasting reports from Nazi attempts to land air-borne troops and supplies to the 60,000 Germans caught in the Russian encirclement.

Russian military quarters said the steel jaws of the trap were steadily tightening and that the Germans faced a choice of surrender or death in the frozen marshes 150 miles below Leningrad.

A bulletin from Hitler's headquarters, silent on the crisis at Stalingrad, acknowledged that the Russian front was sticking in heavy fire, supported by tanks and aircraft, in front of Sevastopol and the Kerch Peninsula in the Crimea.

HIT AT KHARKOV
The communiqué said another strong tank-led Russian attack was being repulsed.

DOWN GERMAN on page 11

U. S. Gets Ready For Possible Axis Spring Raids By Sea Or Air

WASHINGTON (AP)—Preliminary against Axis spring raids by sea or air were heightened today with a call for all-night, every-night partial blackouts in a defense some reaching 300 miles inland from all United States coasts.

In collaboration with military officials, James M. Landis, director of the Office of Civilian Defense, issued immediate blackout of all lights in "critical areas" which "are not capable of being put out as a domestic matter" in case of attack.

The coastal blackout program was contained in telegrams from Landis' office to regional OGD directors.

Japs Mass To Attack Rangoon; Burma Situation "Very Serious"

LONDON (AP)—The Japanese are massing troops for a renewed smash toward Rangoon and the Burma front situation is "very serious," a British commentator acknowledged today.

He admitted reports that the Japanese had cut the road and railroad north of Pegu probably were true and emphasized the strength of the imminent Japanese onslaught against British troops holding the line west of the Sittoung River.

The Japanese infantry suffered 2,000 casualties in a series of battles which resulted in a small but important bridgehead across the Sittoung, the commentator added.

The battle of the bridgehead was a small but brilliant action. It was believed that troops of the Dutch of Wellington's Infantry and the

WEATHER

Continued
cold
 tonight
 Today's Temp: 41. 41. 41.
 Sunday: 41. 41. 41.
 Monday: 41. 41. 41.
 Tuesday: 41. 41. 41.
 Wednesday: 41. 41. 41.
 Thursday: 41. 41. 41.
 Friday: 41. 41. 41.
 Saturday: 41. 41. 41.