

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

U.S. Forces Smash Japanese in Philippines

Pneumonia Fatal To Hugh Johnson At Capital Hotel

'Ironpants' Was Head of NRA

WASHINGTON—(AP)—General Hugh Johnson, the hard-driving, ex-Union bugle-blower...



JOHNSON

U. S. Holding Up French Shipments No Supplies Going to Africa Pending Vichy Situation Change

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—The United States has held up shipments of non-military supplies to French North Africa pending clarification of the situation in Vichy.

Torpedoes Hit Ships One Sunk, Other Broken in Half

BERN, Switzerland.—(AP)—Enemy submarines sank a Vichy French transport ship and another ship in the Mediterranean...

NORFOLK.—(AP)—Enemy submarines sank a transport ship and another ship in the Atlantic Ocean...

CHUNGKING, China.—(AP)—The Japanese are launching a major offensive in the southern Shensi province...

Other Rescued.—Twenty-eight survivors of the other torpedoing, which occurred early on the morning of April 6...

USSIES ATTACK Timor Target.—NEW YORK.—(AP)—Koopang, on New Guinea, was raided successfully...

Carelessness Blamed For Fire On Normandie--Criticisms Made.—WASHINGTON.—(AP)—A House subcommittee blamed carelessness and lack of proper supervision today for the fire which engulfed the liner Normandie...

Reds Smash First Line Of Bryansk Defenses

Battle Hard in Second Line

KUIRYSHEV, Russia.—(AP)—Soviet troops have smashed through the first line of German defenses guarding Bryansk, 200 miles southwest of Moscow...

Supplies Taken.—The dispatches said Nazi supplies captured in the steady sweep of the Russian forces included quantities of new rifles and machine-guns...

RAF Presses Its Non-Stop Blows Occupied Coast Raided; Large Fires Left in Ruhr Valley

LONDON.—(AP)—The hard-hitting RAF began its second 24 hours of a non-stop air offensive over the continent this morning with raids against the strongly-trenched occupied coast after leaving "very large" fires burning in the Ruhr Valley.

Production Delay Denied.—Says U. S. Industry Converted For War.—WASHINGTON.—(AP)—Philip D. Reed, industry branches chief under the War Production Board...

Report Japs in New Offensive.—CHUNGKING, China.—(AP)—The Japanese are launching a major offensive in the southern Shensi province...

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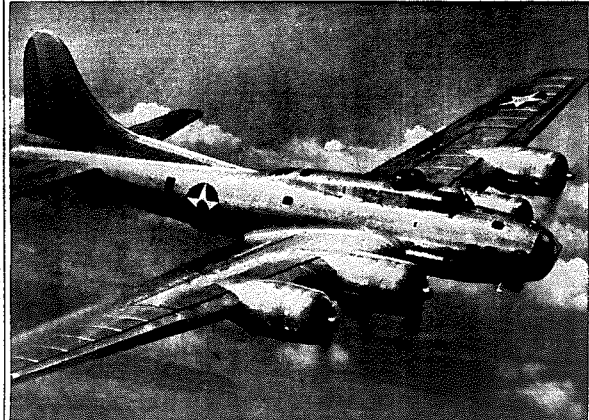
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The wreckage of high explosive bombs being dropped on the Ruhr was said to run into "hundreds of tons each night an attack is made."

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Raid Of 4,000 Miles, Round Trip, Finished

First Blow Struck in MacArthur's Pledged Offensive

By C. YATES McDANIEL

UNITED STATES ARMY HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA.—(AP)—American Army bombers smashed Japanese shipping, planes, bases, docks and troop concentrations at four points in the Philippines Monday and Tuesday in a 4,000-mile round trip raid from Australia...

These spectacular blows by thirteen U. S. planes were announced tonight in a communique giving remarkable evidence that General Douglas MacArthur, Supreme Commander in the Southwest Pacific, was not speaking idly when on his arrival in Australia...

The American offensive was accomplished with loss of only one plane whose crew was saved.

The raiders struck with destructive fury at Nichols Field, near Manila, at Davao, Cebu and Batangas.

FIVE SHIPS SUNK.—Five Japanese transports and supply ships were listed as sunk and at least three others hit directly in the air...

Particularly effective blows were announced against Davao, on the southern island of Mindanao, where Japanese troops were bombed, docks and warehouses hit, two troop transports hit, two planes destroyed and several damaged.

ATTACK AT CEBU.—At Cebu, central Philippine island now under Japanese attack, three of the invader transports were sunk and two damaged and three planes were destroyed.

At Batangas, a Japanese cargo ship presumably carrying military supplies was sunk.

The operation was commanded by Brigadier General Ralph Royce. The bombers had hardly come to a standstill on the runway on returning to their base somewhere in Australia when Brig. Gen. Bush Lincoln, representing the United Nations Air Command, flew to Gen. George H. Brett, rushed up and handed General Royce the distinguished Flying Cross, as directed by President Roosevelt.

The DPC also was awarded to Lt. Col. John Robert Davis, Piedmont, Calif., and Capt. Frank P. Boston.

GEN. BRETT PRAISED.—General Brett issued a statement highly commending General Royce, saying he volunteered for "the most important mission," and that "his accomplishment will undoubtedly be told in detail at a later date, but now it is desirable to point out that he had led the first of the round-trip offensive action as vital to winning of any military conflict."

"The distance from northeastern Australia to Manila is roughly 8,000 miles; to Davao 1,400. Since the B-25 bombers have a round-trip range, loaded, of about 1,700 miles, the implication was that they may have refueled somewhere in American-held territory in the Philippines."

"The three B-17's—the famous Flying Fortress—made the round-trip raid readily without refueling."

There are some 7,000 islands in the Philippines, and only a few of them have been occupied by the Japanese.

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WEATHER section with temperature and forecast information.

Notes To Readers section with publication information.