

# MADAGASCAR BASE

## WALL POLICE CHIEF, FOUR OTHERS SLAIN

### Japs Move Into China From Burma Back Door

### Bitter Fighting In Progress

CHUNGKING — (AP) — Chinese troops invaded China's Yunnan Province today after driving up the Burma road and crossing the shallow Wanting River. 70 miles from this capital, military spokesmen said.

A Chinese communiqué said Japanese troops advancing on the Burma road from the frontier, opposite the Chinese town of Wanting, had been halted at that fighting was continuing with unabated ferocity.

The spokesman said Wanting had been hit by a Japanese bomber but that bitter fighting was in progress in that area also.

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#### Skoda Works in Old Czechoslovakia Among Targets

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It was the second time that the new Stirling bombers had attacked Pilsen, which they bombed on April 24.

The Air Ministry gave no details of the results of the new raids, but air experts, noting they were called out in the face of unfavorable weather and enemy opposition with the loss of only three bombers, called them a new "one of the RAF's most impressive achievements."

Members made the raid in armadas, called by the Air Ministry described only as a strong force.

The British bagged seven German planes during the night. A fly cop Czech flight lieutenant got three of them. Flying over three German airfields in the new RAF tactics of walloping German raiders, the return to home base, this pilot was credited with shooting down three out of six Heinkels he encountered over one airfield in northern France. He used a four-cannon Hurricane plane.

One plane was shot down off the south coast, which the Germans raided, and an authoritative source said three German bombers were destroyed over Britain.

### Americans in Burma Raid

#### Fly Through Storm To Attack Jap Air Base

NEW DELHI — (AP) — United States bombers drove through a heavy thunderstorm early today and attacked a major Japanese air base just north of Rangoon where 70 enemy aircraft had been sighted.

The great multi-motored crafts of Major Gen. Lewis H. Brereton's second tactical group, equipped with searchlights and ground fire to drop 250 and 500-pound bombs which they were dropping in explosions at Mingaladon airport, a communiqué said.

The bombers, which appeared to fly at a low altitude, were seen to drop bombs and to fly over the runway were observed burning, the account added.

Eight Japanese fighters were shot down, a reconnaissance had established the presence of the 70 Japanese planes.

Eighteen fighters planes were observed, but they stayed clear of the gun-bristling raiders.

The Japanese appeared intent on attacking the American bombers, but the British of the right-attempted to turn them away from the Chinese of the left flank.

The enemy was expected to continue its attack on the strategic North Burma town of Bhamo, some 170 miles from the Japanese base, and to lead a previous attack on Hanoi.

### Bulgaria Cracks Down On American Property

BERN, Switzerland — (AP) — The Swiss telegraphic agency reported today that the Bulgarian government has decided to apply the law confiscating property of enemies of the United States, Britain, Australia and New Zealand.

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### Posse Of 250 Join Search For Negro Who Ran Amuck

#### Chief Fallow Shot Attempting To Arrest Killer; 4 Negroes Shot To Death

HAMLET — Armed to the teeth, a posse of 250 State Highway Patrolmen, Richmond County officers, local police and citizens were scouring the surrounding area here this afternoon for Will Dawkins, Negro, after he allegedly had run amuck here this morning, murdered Police Chief J. B. Fallow and four Negroes, and injured two others.

One of the injured Negroes is not expected to live.

The entire town virtually closed down as the manhunt went on. The day as the manhunt went on. The day as the manhunt went on. The day as the manhunt went on.

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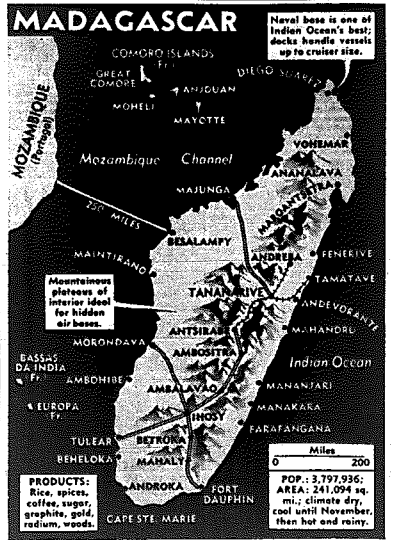
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### MADAGASCAR MELODRAMA—France's great island in the Indian Ocean leaped suddenly into the limelight as British occupation forces moved in to beat the Japanese in a race for this vital place. The British landed at Courrier Bay on the far northeast tip of the island and today were attacking the naval base of Diego Suarez, ten miles across the isthmus.

### U. S. Gets Tough With Vichy Men

#### Pledges To Fight Any Axis Attempt To Take Madagascar

By EDWIN STOUT

WASHINGTON — (AP) — British warships and troops were at Madagascar today and American forces were pledged to fight any Axis attempt to grab the great French island which the Japanese apparently had hoped to wrest from the weak and possibly willing hands of Vichy.

The coup by which a British land and sea force moved to Madagascar was announced in Washington and London last night. Dropping its kid-glove policy in dealing with Vichy, the United States warned bluntly that it pro-Nazi Pierre Laval's Government was inadmissible.

Vichy, France — (AP) — Chief of Government Laval declared tonight he had received a note from President Roosevelt demanding that France not defend Madagascar against British attack, and that the Vichy Government regarded this note as inadmissible.

Nevertheless, France under no circumstances will make the first move toward a rupture with the United States, Laval said.

When they set out March 6, he said, there were 30 men in each lifeboat and five in the motorboat which they hoped to sight.

When the escape was planned, Jewdine related, only two lifeboats and one motorboat could be found.

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### Major Red Attack Made

#### May Have Started Big Drive Ahead of Nazis

LONDON — (AP) — Russian attacks in the Kursk, Kharkov and Tuganov sectors of the southern front were reported today in circumstances which suggested a major Soviet offensive might have started before the Germans were able to launch one of their own.

These attacks, directed by Marshal Semen Timoshenko, were reported from Stockholms dispatches yesterday said he sent this special message to residents of the German-occupied Ukraine.

"The Red Army is on its way to liberate you,"

### A Modern Captain Bligh—12 Airforcemen In Australia After Great Open Boat Voyage

MELBOURNE, Australia — (AP) — Twelve airforcemen have reached Australia after sailing for 44 days across 1,500 miles of open sea from Japan in a lifeboat, a feat which naval authorities acclaimed as one of the great open boat voyages of history.

RAP FIVE Commander Jewdine was permitted today to tell the story of the navigation feat in which he and his companions, eight Australians and two other Britons, made their daring escape from the Japanese-occupied Dutch East Indies.

They were becalmed and storm-damaged. They were menaced by a whale. They were seen—but ignored—by a Japanese submarine and rescued by an Australian flying boat.

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### Land And Sea Assault Upon Harbor Made

#### Commandos, Marines and Infantry Attack Diego Suarez From Rear

LONDON — (AP) — British Commandos, Marines and infantry landed on the northern tip of Madagascar today, and a Vichy news agency broadcast that they were attacking the strong French naval base of Diego Suarez from the rear while warships and squadrons of airplanes assaulted the harbor frontally.

British parachute troops also were used in the attack, the Vichy broadcast said.

The troops landed at Courrier Bay and started pushing ten miles across the northern isthmus against the base, in an attempt to forestall its seizure by the Japanese.

As the occupation force moved in on the Vichy French colony, informed London sources declared there was "a possibility the Japanese may make the bold move and strike directly at Madagascar."

In view of the swift British action, however, they thought the Japanese, who are believed to have a powerful battle squadron

### Say French Craft Sunk

#### Sub and Tender Down Off Madagascar

BERLIN (from German broadcast) — (AP) — DNB said today that a French submarine and tender had been sunk "off Madagascar, resting the British landing."

Quoting what it said was official information from Vichy, the agency said that fighting still was going on this afternoon, and that there had been French casualties.

Earlier Fernand De Brion, Vichy representative in Paris, was quoted as saying the French troops on Madagascar had been given strict orders to resist the Allied attack.

DNB said it was not yet known whether the British landing operation had succeeded.

Announcement of the action at Madagascar "made the greatest impression and the French Government may be expected to react most sharply," said a Berlin broadcast of Saturday.

"The form which this reaction is likely to take and its military effect probably will become manifest during the course of the day. The rupture of diplomatic relations between France and the United States of America on the initiative of the latter has not been without significance for the guards Madagascar."

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### U. S. Defenders Of Corregidor Hold Out

WASHINGTON — (AP) — United States defenders of Corregidor, a small island in Manila Bay, are holding out today against relentless Japanese bombing and shelling, and a new Japanese attack on the southern island of Mindanao was being resisted stubbornly.

The air raids on Corregidor and the 560-ton United States gunboat Mindanao, but there were no casualties among the crew, which normally numbered about 80.

The War Department announced late yesterday that during the day General Wainwright's forces defending the island for still in American hands at the entrance to Manila Bay were bombarded for five hours by Japanese artillery, including 240-mm or nine-inch guns.

### Weather

Clear tonight.

Today's Temp.: H. 83; L. 68. Sunset Today 7:15. Sunrise Tomorrow 5:45. Additional U. S. Weather Bureau data will be found on page 2.

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