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Wainwright Story

Big Jap Landings On Island Forced Yanks To Give Up

A few "Banzais" were in order: Triumphant Japanese troops mount guns and shout after the surrender of Corregidor by General Wainwright. These are the guns mentioned by General Wainwright in today's installment of "This Is My Story." From captured enemy film.

(In his nineteenth article General Wainwright today reveals the story of one of the most humiliating days in American history—May 6, 1942—when he was forced to make a surrender offer.)

By GEN. JONATHAN M. WAINWRIGHT

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THE moment I was told by Maj. Gen. George F. Moore that the Japs were at long last landing on Corregidor I went directly to his command post in the Tunnel and for the rest of that dreadful night of May 5-6, 1942, I alternated between that post and the command post of Lt. Col. Beecher, U.S.M.C., just inside the eastern entrance of the Tunnel. Colonel Beecher was in command of the eastern sector of the beach defense.

The enemy hit the extreme northeast end of pollywog-shaped Corregidor, down near the end of the island's tail.

The first wave of Japs came in landing boats and armed motorboats. They were heavily engaged by our men and were being mauled back at the shoreline when the second Jap wave struck the beaches with tanks and artillery.

Thus strengthened, the enemy quickly pushed past the beaches' light and heavy-gunless defenders and cut Corregidor's tail in two. Then, on a solid front, the Japs turned and began their march westward toward Malinta Tunnel, hub of our last resistance.

Gen. Moore stripped some of our remaining heavy batteries of their personnel to bolster the defensive infantry line we hastily strung across Corregidor between Malinta Hill and the approaching Japs. It was most difficult to get our men into their positions, for Jap batteries on Bataan and Cavite were protecting the Jap landings, by plastering the entire unoccupied section of The Rock with the heaviest kind of bombardment.

But despite this hellish fire our heroic harbor defense troops and Marines made the advancing Japs pay for every foot they gained.

MESSAGE CAME FROM ROOSEVELT

At 4 A. M. on May 6 with the Japs slowly approaching Denver Hill, a rise that girdles the island between their landing point and Malinta Tunnel, I received a final message from President Roosevelt. Official message blanks were so completely exhausted that the operator decoded the message on rough ruled paper, which I still treasure and which some day will be suitably framed and passed on to my son. It read:

"During recent weeks we have been following with growing admiration the day-by-day accounts of your heroic stand against the mounting intensity of bombardment by enemy planes and heavy siege guns.

"In spite of all the handicaps of complete isolation, lack of food and ammunition you have given the world a shining example of patriotic fortitude and self-sacrifice.

"The American people ask no finer example of tenacity, resourcefulness, and steadfast courage. The calm determination of your personal leadership in a desperate situation sets an standard of duty for our soldiers throughout the world.

"In every camp and on every naval vessel soldiers, sailors and Marines are inspired by the gallant struggle of their comrades in the Philippines. The workmen in our shipyards and munitions plants redouble their efforts because of your example.

"You and your devoted followers have become the living symbols of our war aims and the guarantee of victory.

—FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT."

At daylight my orderly, Sgt. Hubert Carroll, brought some food and coffee to Moore's Headquarters in the Tunnel. I could not eat. The Japs were on Denver Hill, their forward elements within 500 yards of the Tunnel's east entrance.

Col. Beecher ordered a reserve platoon of Marines out to the line, but they ran right into a severe artillery barrage and were wiped out in front of our eyes.

Still, our men held doggedly. But at 10 A. M., in the midst of an ear-splitting shelling, word came up from Col. Sam Howard, Marine commander, that the Japs were landing more tanks and moving them toward us.

IT WAS A HARD DECISION TO MAKE

I had to make up my mind . . . a mind then reeling with the task of trying to find ways and means of averting the inevitable. I went over our position in my mind: shaken troops, beach defenses literally pulverized, assault-boat barrie's wrecked, concrete machine-gun nests reduced to powder, the great majority of seacoast guns as well as fire control instruments destroyed; 46 of the 48 beach-defense 75 mm. guns knocked out, communications disrupted, movement of troops all but impossible because of the continued shelling, new and unprotected landings. . .

But it was the terror that is created in a tank that was the deciding factor. I thought of the havoc that even one of these could wreak if it nosed into the Tunnel, where lay our helpless wounded and their brave nurses.

I walked up and down in the Tunnel, heavy with all these thoughts. And then my head came up and I entered my own headquarters. I called Gen. Moore and Brig. Gen. Lewis Beebe. I had come to a decision which I have never regretted.

"We can't hold out very much longer," I told the two haggard generals. "Maybe we could last through this day, but the end certainly must come tonight. It would be better to clear up the situation now, in daylight."

It was 10:15 A. M. on the black day of May 6, 1942.

I then ordered Gen. Beebe to get out a previously prepared surrender broadcast—prepared in the event I lost my life and could not be present when the broadcast eventually had to be made—and told him to insert therein that we would cease firing at noon. He and Gen. Moore agreed that I had taken the only step possible under the circumstances.

With a view to surrendering as few troops as possible, I then sent a radio to Maj. Gen. William F. Sharp Jr., commanding my Visayan-Mindanao force, and relieved him of further responsibility to me but directed that he thereupon place himself and his men under MacArthur's high command.

Then I ordered the men of Corregidor and the other fortified islands in the Bay to destroy all remaining weapons of greater than .45 caliber before noon, as well as all other military and naval stores, equipment and ships. Our only two modern large guns, the 12-inch rifles built primarily to combat a warship attack from the seaward, soon went up with a roar, their nozzles ripped by shells placed therein in reverse and then struck by emerging shells.

I did not know it at the time, but in the terror and confusion of the scene my order to destroy larger guns was misinterpreted by Col. Howard's Marines. They began destroying their small arms and thousands of others followed suit before we could stop them.

SURRENDER OFFER MADE IN BROADCAST

Promptly at 10:30 A. M. Gen. Beebe stepped to the microphone of our little radio station, which MacArthur had named "The Voice of Freedom." His voice was clear:

"Message for General Homma." he repeated, "or the present Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Japanese Forces on Luzon. This he also repeated, then added with other repetitions:

"Anyone receiving this message please transmit it to the Commander-in-Chief of the Imperial Japanese Forces on Luzon.

"For military reasons which where the bitterest fighting took place, radioed: "Running out of ammunition. Unless you send help we'll be overrun."

One British company detailed eight men to protect a jail where there were 35 Dutch women and children. The company commander reported that he heard several shots at the jail followed by screams and said he feared the building had been overrun and the internees killed.

Asked how many natives the British had taken prisoner, Maj. J. R. Orr of Poona, India, said: "We had quite a few, but I think we just took their pants off and let them go." Later he said that seven natives were being held.

Soekarno rushed to Soerabaja in an RAF plane in an attempt to get the natives to halt the fighting.

See GENERAL on Page 7-A

Indonesian Revolt

Truce Arranged In Struggle At Java Navy Base

By RALPH MORTON

BATAVIA, Java—(AP)—Indonesian Nationalists using armored cars and light tanks killed an estimated 25 members of the British Indian force at Soerabaja before President Soekarno of the "Indonesian Republic" reportedly arranged a truce today at the big naval base.

A British officer made the casualty estimate but did not include pockets surrounded by the natives. The officer said that many women and children in internment camps in the area had been killed by the natives.

BLOODY FIGHTING

The fighting at Soerabaja was the bloodiest of the Allied occupation of the island of Java. Military equipment which the natives had taken from the Japanese included at least twenty armored vehicles, and machineguns and mortars, the officer said, adding that the hard-pressed British had used even their "cooks and cobblers" in the fighting.

Before the truce a couple of companies of Rajputana Rifles fought desperately from the Darmo Hospital and the British Consulate. A company of British engineers at the Darmo Barracks and Darmo Station.

White House Announces Decision

Won't Come To State Now

By ERNEST B. VACCARO

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Confronted by mounting reconversion and foreign problems, President Truman today suddenly canceled all of his out-of-town trips.

These included a visit to Statesville and Raleigh, N. C., Friday.

Eben Ayers, assistant White House press secretary who made the announcement to newsmen, attributed the decision to the pressure of duties in Washington.

He did not elaborate. Reporters were told several days ago that a week-end visit to North Carolina and Georgia might have to be canceled. Ayers said at the time the President wanted to see as many delegates to next Monday's labor-management conference as he could in advance of their first session.

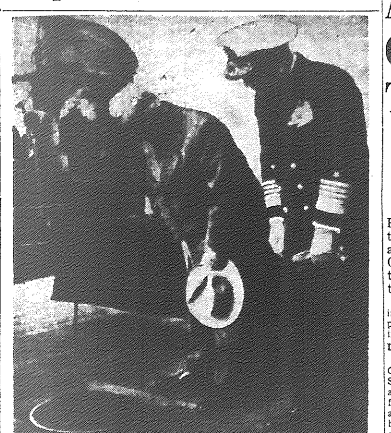
Mr. Truman also will confer tomorrow with members of the Far Eastern Advisory Commission which will take up problems of Far Eastern occupation policy.

However, the President called off not only the Southern engagement, but visits to Missouri and Oklahoma and one for Waco, Texas, set for Dec. 5, a date which probably would be long after the conclusion of the labor-management meeting.

Close associates of the Chief Executive have reported he is embarking on a course intended to assert a more positive personal control of Administration and party policy.

At the same time, some of the President's friends are known to have urged him to give up out-of-town travel for a while, lest there be criticism of absences from Washington while important legislative and other issues are undecided. They expressed concern with some criticism of his recent trip to a county fair at Caruthersville, Mo., and a fishing lodge at Reelfoot Lake, Tenn.

Mr. Truman brought that trip to an end with a speech at a dam dedication at Gilbertsville, Ky., which he supplemented with an impromptu plea for everyone to cut out the foolishness and get to work.



TRUMAN VIEWS SURRENDER SITE — President Truman stoops to read the plaque aboard the U. S. battleship Missouri marking the spot where the Japanese surrender was signed. He visited the ship during his trip to New York for the Navy Day review of the fleet. At the right is Admiral Jonas H. Ingram, commander of the Atlantic Fleet. (AP Wirephoto.)

Auto Dispute

UAW Snubs GM's 45-Hour Plan

DETROIT — (AP) — President R. J. Thomas of the CIO United Auto Workers, which today emphatically rejected a General Motors Corp. proposal for a 45-hour week, announced he had been called by President Truman to a conference at the White House at 11 A. M. Friday.

Thomas said he did not know why the President had summoned him. Although the labor-management conference was not scheduled to begin until the following Monday, he said he assumed his summons to Washington was related to that meeting.

WILSON SEES TRUMAN

Shortly before General Motors offered its 45-hour work week proposal, C. E. Wilson, General Motors president, had conferred with Truman.

"I don't see how the 45-hour week could do either General Motors or the workers any good," Thomas asserted.

Another union leader termed General Motors' suggestion for joint action in petitioning Congress for an extension of the 40-hour work week to 45 as a "conspiracy against millions of returning veterans and laid-off war workers."

General Motors, declared Walter P. Reuther, UAW-CIO vice president, "is insuring economic suicide for itself and our whole peacetime economy."

The corporation and union were stalemated over the workers' demand for a 30 per cent wage increase when negotiations were postponed indefinitely last week.

UNION DEMAND SCORED

General Motors had rejected the union demand as "unreasonable."

The union, which has voted to strike to support its demand, stood firm. It would not digress "one red cent," Reuther asserted, unless GM could prove it impossible to raise wages without boosting the price of its products.

At that time, General Motors, which maintains there can be no wage boost without a corresponding hike in prices, said it would answer the union's contentions within ten days.

The union, obviously, regarded the

See UAW on page 7

Seek Legal Ruling

County May Limit Sale Of Beer

By TOM WATKINS
Charlotte News Staff Writer

The Mecklenburg County Commissioners—after hearing their police chief graphically describe incidents of wholesale drunkenness, fights and flying bottles—arose today prepared to smite the beer interests a mighty blow, but found themselves enmeshed in a web of legal entanglements that forced a temporary truce.

But next week—depending upon the outcome of the County Attorney's conversation with the State's Attorney General — the Commissioners will be permanently stymied or in a position to wage a battle royal against the sale of beer at large, and temporary public gatherings, such as circuses, fairs and auto races.

They were up in arms at the Courthouse over the public spectacle that Mecklenburgers have made of themselves during recent weeks by excessively tapping the beer barrel lanes that resulted in hundreds—and that figure is used literally and not figuratively—being hauled into County Court to face charges of one description or another, with assaults and drunken driving thrown in for good measure.

POLICE KEPT BUSY

During the week of the Fair, Rural Police Chief Henry Severs reried in rebellion, the policemen almost ran their legs off and the tires on their automobiles too, in hauling drunks to Police Headquarters, while the telephones hummed with reports of indignation over the rowdiness, fights and beer bottles flying through the stands jammed with thousands of adult spectators and their children.

And last Monday—and public records are cited as proof positive—the largest single day court in the long history of Mecklenburg County was held with 124 defendants up for trial. To make the picture graphic there were 112 cases of drunkenness alone, exclusive of numerous cases of assaults, affrays, drunken driving and related offenses, from the Fair, although all of them were not up for trial on this

See BOARD SEEKS on Page 7-A

Tests Face New Policy

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER

WASHINGTON—(AP)—Myriad international problems held a promise today of early and crucial tests for President Truman's newly-proclaimed twelve-point foreign policy.

One touchy point may disappear. This concerns Russia's demand for an Allied control council for Japan. The issue may be compromised in the near future.

BRIGHT SPOT

The brightest spot diplomatic authorities see in the international situation is evidence of improving Russian-American relations. The optimism stems from the friendly reception accorded U. S. Ambassador Harriman when he delivered a personal message from Mr. Truman to Generalissimo Stalin last week.

The nature of the message and of Stalin's reply have not been disclosed. There was some belief in Washington that negotiations over policy details, particularly respecting European peace treaties and the Japanese Control Council, are still in progress.

However, the main purpose of the interchange was clearly to try to strengthen the basis for present and future co-operation among the great powers in trying to organize a secure world peace.

MAIN PROBLEMS

Here are the main international problems which President Truman and Secretary of State Byrnes

See TESTS FACE on page 7-A

See TRUMAN TRIP on page 7-A

Vinson Still Plans Speech In Statesville

WASHINGTON—(AP)— Secretary of the Treasury Vinson said today he planned to go to Statesville, N. C., to make a scheduled speech Friday night.

Secretary of War Patterson is booked to speak Thursday night and Vinson Friday night at dinners in connection with a special meeting of the North Carolina State Senate. President Truman.

Oath Taken By Spruille Braden

WASHINGTON — (AP) — Spruille Braden took the oath of office as Assistant Secretary of State for Latin American Affairs today, two months after President Truman nominated him for that job.

Mrs. Braden, friends, and State Department officials, attended, but the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, which held up Braden's confirmation until a week ago, was not represented.

Some Senators regarded Braden's outspoken criticism of Argentina's military dictatorship during his four months as Ambassador to Buenos Aires as interference with the internal affairs of that country.

Two Major Strikes End

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Settlement of two major strikes today offset somewhat new walkouts in Akron, Ohio, and San Francisco.

These changes in the national strike picture placed the total number of persons not working because of labor trouble at 245,000, compared with 228,000 a week ago and about 233,000 over the week-end.

FILM DELAY

The number out would have been scaled closer to last week's levels had not leaders of the Hollywood motion picture strike delayed from today until Wednesday the return of about 7,000 persons to studios.

A stoppage at the Westinghouse Air Brake Co. and its subsidiary, Union Switch and Signal Co., Pittsburgh, ended and 11,500 persons affected resume work. Directly involved in the walkout were 2,500 CIO electrical workers whose leader said a meeting had been sought with the company to settle a grievance over wage scales. The stoppage began Wednesday.

Another 6,500 workers in Camden, N. J., on strike for nearly two weeks, returned to work. The strike was at the R. M. Hollingshead Corp.

In Akron, Ohio, on unauthorized walkout of 400 maintenance and power employees of the Firestone Tire & Rubber Co. halted production and kept 15,000 other workers off the job.

Thirteen thousand AFL and CIO machinists struck in 179 San Francisco and East Bay plants after demands for more pay were unsuccessful. Ultimately the walkout may affect from 40,000 to 80,000 workers.

Charlotte Returnees

A number of Charlotte soldiers arrived in the States over the week-end aboard ships docking in New York, Seattle and Boston.

Aboard the Sea Robin which docked in New York yesterday:

M Sgt. Robert M. Oehler.

Aboard the SS James Parker which docked in New York yesterday:

Cpl. William F Fickling.

Pvt. Charles S. Fox.

Aboard the SS Monticair Victory which docked in Boston yesterday:

Pfc. James C. Lowery.

Pvt. James C. Cagle.

T Sgt. William C. Thompson

Aboard the Logan which docked Saturday in Seattle:

Sgt. Joseph H. Tompkins, Rt. 4, Berryhill.

S Sgt. John F. Taylor, 726 S. Plum St.

Aboard the George Meade which docked Saturday in New York:

S Sgt. Joseph Williams.

Tremors Recorded At Fordham And Weston

NEW YORK — (AP) — Two "very severe" earth tremors, plus lesser shocks continuing for an hour afterward, were recorded today on Fordham University's seismograph and Father Joseph Lynch, seismologist, said they centered about 2,700 miles from New York.

The same tremors were recorded simultaneously at the Weston College seismograph station in Weston, Mass.

Father Lynch said the first shock was recorded at 6:02:00 A. M. and the second at 6:06:02.

American Held By U. S. Officers At Shanghai

SHANGHAI — (AP) — Don Chiahoim, Baltimore-born Shanghai newspaper and radio man, was detained by American intelligence officers today for questioning about broadcasts they said he made during the Japanese occupation of Shanghai.

No Rewards For Victories

Britain Will No Longer Give Fortunes To Military Chiefs

LONDON — (AP) — Britain's Labor Government, now in the midst of sweeping economic and industrial changes, announced today a decision to break another centuries-old tradition and abandon the practice of voting large monetary gifts to victorious military chiefs.

Prime Minister Attlee told Commons the custom was no longer "in accordance with the spirit of the times or the character of the war."

He added, however, the decision was not to be construed "as showing a lack of appreciation for the magnificent services rendered by our military leaders, who have never been surpassed in our military history."

Britain still is paying for some of the gifts to winning field marshals, generals and admirals after previous wars.

The Duke of Marlborough received 5,000 pounds ($20,000) a year for life, plus Blenheim Palace which was built at a public expense of 240,000 pounds ($960,000). Wellington, hero of Waterloo, got a cattle and 700,000 pounds ($2,800,000). Lord Nelson's descendants received a perpetual annuity of 5,000 pounds a year.

After the last war, Earl Beatty, naval commander, got 100,000 pounds, and Field Marshal Haig, British commander-in-chief in France, received the same amount.

Attlee asserted the war had called for sustained effort on the part of the whole community and it would not be right to single out a small number of individuals for recognition in the way of monetary grants.

Communists And Central Government Troops Fight

U. S. Marines Not Involved

By SPENCER MOOSA

CHUNGKING — (AP) — Reports of heavy fighting between Chinese Communist and Central troops in North China pictured today a nation locked in civil war, real though not officially declared.

Warfare is growing in intensity in Shantung, Shansi and Sulyuan provinces, said dispatches received in Chungking.

LOSSES HEAVY

The Chinese press attributed to Gen. Yen Hsi-Shan, Governor of Shansi, now visiting Chungking, a statement that Government forces suffered 15,000 casualties and Communist losses "also were heavy" in fighting centering around Changchih, strategic town in southeastern Shansi which Yen conceded the Reds captured.

Independent reports said that wherever the Communists were retreating along railways they were destroying tracks and blowing up bridges.

This explained the slow movement of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek's troops which are preceding along the Peiping-Hankow and Tientsin-Pukow railroads to replace United States Marines in the Peiping-Tientsin area.

Insistent reports that the Russians were supplying the Communists with captured Japanese war material continued to circulate in Chungking, but no one in authority would allow himself to be quoted.

Other reports told of bitter fighting in eleven provinces, mostly in North China but including Central parts of the nation and Kwangtung province, on the Southeast coast.

The New China Daily News, Communist publication, estimated 300,000 Central Government troops were battling the Reds. Neutral observers said they believed this figure was exaggerated, but all quarters conceded the fighting was serious.

"We cannot consider the situation represents a civil war until Chiang Kai-Shek openly proclaims it to be so and calls the Communists rebels," said an official Communist spokesman.

Sources favoring Chiang's government said they believed the only way to unify the nation was to eliminate the Communists, which they said they thought could be done with an all-out, well executed campaign in from three to six months.

CHIANG FEARS REACTION

These sources said they believed Chiang would start a smashing campaign against the Communists were he not apprehensive over the reaction from other nations, particularly the United States, to the possibility that Russia might support the Reds.

Several Chungking sources said they believed that there was no real chance of putting the current deadlocked unity discussions between the Communists and Chiang's government on the road to peaceful settlement.

REDS TO FIGHT believed

A Communist spokesman in Chungking clearly indicated that the Reds would continue to fight rather than allow Central Government forces any free passage along communication lines to north China.

The Communists announced capture of Linmingwang, railroad town near Tsehsien in southern Hopei Province, after inflicting heavy losses on "puppet troops."

Possession of Linmingwang would put the Communists across the route of Central Government troops moving toward Peiping to relieve American Marines in the north.

The Marines have not become involved in the fighting, and have been ordered to stay clear of any entanglement in China's internal troubles.

Yanks Seize Treasure Worth Million Dollars

OSAKA — (AP) — An undisclosed source in the Japanese finance ministry supplied American troops today a tip which led to seizure today of more than $1,000,000 worth of gold, silver and platinum from a safe in the Mitsubishi Department store.

WEATHER

Fair and continued warm this afternoon and Tuesday. Cool again tonight.

Temperature at 2:30 Today ... 71
High and Low Last 24 Hours 71 and 47
Sunset Today ... 5:50
Sunrise Tomorrow ... 6:48