



# THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

And Evening Chronicle

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SATURDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1941

## Let's Go!

### The Philippines Must Be Held at All Cost

"Remember Pearl Harbor" probably will take its place among the great and angry battlecries of this country. But at the moment, there is another which struggles for utterance and fulfillment. It is, "Relieve the Philippines."

There is no time to expound upon it. It is an SOS, a call for all assistance. Listen to Francis B. Sayre, U. S. High Commissioner:

"We know you back home will send us help and that you won't permit divided councils or capital and labor disputes or red tape or anything else to delay your getting effective help to us before it is too late."

"We are in the fight to stay. War awakens upon us all action, action. Time is of the essence. Come on, America!"

As Pearl Harbor is the defensive base of U. S. forces in the Pacific, the Philippines are its chief offensive base. We shall never win this war by fighting defensively. The Philippines must be held at all costs. Time is of the essence. Come on, America!

## Cruel Clouds

### They Betrayed Two Mighty Battleships

Because of a tiny rift in the clouds hanging over Malaysia this week, two great warships went to the bottom of the sea, and the whole balance of naval power in the Pacific War was upset.

While His Majesty's Battleship Prince of Wales and Cruiser Repulse steamed northward off the Malaysian coast, Japanese bombers were busy knocking out British ships on the peninsula. They did a pretty good job of it. Boon the British squadron was advised that it could no longer count on land-based fighter plane protection.

At the moment of decision—indeed, some reports say after the order to turn back had been given—a low-hanging bank of clouds moved in from the sea. It was then that Admiral Sir Tom Phillips decided to chance the expedition up-coast. With clouds protecting his ships from sight, perhaps he could creep up on the disembarking Japanese troops and let them have it.

It looked like a good bet. The ships moved near their objective, their crews tense at battle stations. And then it happened.

The shattering blanket of clouds gently split open. It was only for a minute or so, but that was long enough. The British ships were sighted, attacked, sunk.

A long chance and hole in the clouds cost the British Navy two capital ships. They cost Sir Tom his life.

## Three Phases

### The Combatants Are Ranged At Varying Stages

Secretary Stimson had something to say Thursday in reporting on the war so far, which is eminently worth repeating. He was talking about the way the Japs had got the jump on us, and while he did not mislead the public, it was thought it was natural that a totalitarian government, which for years had been warring and preparing for war, and which had no scruple, should land the first blow.

From there we went on.

"All students of history know that every war has three periods. They have been designated as the period of onslaught, the period of drag, when the war begins to weigh on the nations involved, and the finish."

Out of that finish emerges, of course, not necessarily the side which has right on its side, for right is conceived by all sides, but the side which had the resources of men, materials and leadership, and which had the fortune to endure the period of drag.

brushed gloves with the enemy, and while she has been attacked and has attacked furiously in return, it yet to learn the full meaning of the first of three phases of war.

The signs are encouraging. The manner in which her forces rebounded from their first setback was thrilling. She has, unquestionably, and very likely she has the fortune in her armed forces and civilian support to go on as she has started. But the onslaught, whether it be favorable or unfavorable, is not the severest test. That lies ahead in the period of drag.

## First Test

### America Must Give Up The Pleasure Car

Of some 46 million trucks and automobiles in the world, United States citizens own and operate about 35 million of them. Today these American auto-owners face the likelihood that total war will require many of them to give up their cars altogether, require the remainder to cut their mileage to a rock-bottom minimum.

Already the Government has forbidden the sale of new tires until Dec. 22 to prevent a buyers' run. There is talk of extending the ban much longer—until we are assured that American ships can continue to bring in new supplies of rubber. In any event, rationing of tires is certain. Equally certain is it that cars cannot run without tires.

This month automobile production has been ordered cut 60 per cent. Next month it will be cut to 25 per cent of the January 1941 output. By mid-year we may expect to see auto production disappear. Planes—produced quickly and in vast quantities—are all that can save us from being wiped out of the Pacific. Cars, at least, civilian auto-production must take its place in the priority line.

And gasoline. Posterity will neither understand nor forgive this generation for squandering our petroleum resources at a time when we weren't even sure how much gas we were going to need. America is being telling itself that sacrifices will be met cheerfully. As war begins to touch our cherished chariot, the automobile, that spirit of self-denial is going to be tested.

## Decisive Factor

### Replacements Will Win The War for America

Not losses, but replacements are going to decide whether Japan or America wins the war in the Pacific. Let's look at the two sides.

Planes: At the beginning of the war Japan had a total air power of from 3,000 to 5,000 planes. She has lost at least 100, probably many more. Her aircraft production facilities are quite small—probably not more than two or three hundred a month.

The American Navy alone has 4,000 planes; the Army several thousand more than that. Furthermore we are now producing more monthly than Japan has turned out more than 15,000. A large number of these went to our allies, but we kept at least half of them for our own use. The rate of production is expected to hit 5,000 a month before long.

Ships: Japan had twelve battleships; America seventeen. A guess is that two have been sunk and knocked out of the fleet. But the ratio of fifteen to ten is more favorable to us than seventeen to twelve. If sinkings continue to be equally divided—and after Pearl Harbor they should be in our favor—we would eventually have five battleships and Japan none at all. Here again our vast shipyards and wealth of resources enable us to turn out five times as many ships of all kinds at present and ten times as many if we expand our facilities. Japan cannot expand her yards. She simply cannot equip any more yards than she has.

Men: There are 90 million Japs and 130 million Americans. There are also 400 million Chinese.

Guys: American metallurgy is the world's biggest and best. We can turn out twenty big guns to Japan's one, and fifty to one if we have to.

In all fields it is the same story. American replacement facilities already far superior to Japan's; Japanese industrial expansion already at its optimum; American expansion just getting started. But let's get going!

## Defense Buying

By Hugh S. Johnson

WASHINGTON. I REALIZE that price control is a tricky business. But I am sure that we can get the best results out of it by having the government buy the goods it needs at the lowest possible price.

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## "To Rediscover America..."

By Dorothy Thompson

NEW YORK. WE began our war with disaster compounded. The German and Italian declaration is a mortal blow. We lost the blow we might have delivered to the Axis by our own immediate declaration of war against them. More disasters will follow in other parts of the world. We begin with defeat. We begin with a loss of our soul to be recovered. We are brought and must about our way out.

WHOLE PEOPLE WIN. HOMERIC WAR. The President spoke of experts. We have selected the best experts. When peace is the struggle are not won by experts. Experts are needed; they have their place; they are useful agents. But Homeric wars are won by whole people.

It is not in property that the individual person or the collective people display what they are, but in adversity. When peace is the routine, great people, great nations display equality, generosity, a relationship to the world, a good-natured or acrimonious hostility among themselves.

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Pearl Harbor can you, the ship-builder, serve America. Ships have been sunk. Then you shall rebuild them—faster, better.

THE LINE-UP. This week the U. S. Census Bureau gave America its official line-up for the Second World War. Names, numbers, and resources of all the principals! It was a timely job and one that merits both publication and citation. Here it is:

THE WORLD	Population	% of U.S.	% of World
ANTI-AXIS—			
United States (including Possessions)	136,621,000	43	34
Great Britain (including Possessions)	500,774,000	2	24
U. S. S. R.	197,750,000	14	15
China	417,000,000	3	—
Netherlands Indies	69,433,000	5	—
Thailand	14,900,000	—	—
TOTAL	1,317,870,000	78	67
AXIS—			
Germany (including Austria)	78,125,000	—	14
Finland	2,950,000	—	—
Hungary (including Transylvania)	21,000,000	—	—
Rumania	19,400,000	—	—
Japan (including Korea and Formosa)	101,573,000	—	—
Manchukuo	1,000,000	—	—
Bulgaria (including So. Dobruja)	6,720,000	—	—
Albania	1,063,000	—	—
TOTAL	306,281,000	3	19
AXIS OCCUPIED—			
Belgium	6,200,000	—	—
Czechoslovakia (before Sept. 38)	15,173,000	—	—
Denmark	3,425,000	—	—
Estonia	1,100,000	—	—
France	41,200,000	—	—
Greece	2,100,000	—	—
Latvia	2,100,000	—	—
Lithuania (including Memel)	2,100,000	—	—
Netherlands	8,433,000	—	—
Poland	35,000,000	—	—
Norway	3,418,000	—	—
Poland	35,000,000	—	—
Yugoslavia	15,703,000	—	—
French Indo-China	23,900,000	—	—
TOTAL	161,978,000	0	10

## Letters to the Editor

### There's a Law Again

Editors, The News: I am referring to an article from Dec. 5 News headline "Held For Series of Thefts." It stated that while youths and a Negro were in custody, addresses of the white boys were withheld. The article stated that the white youths admitted participation in about ten thefts from cars.

In the youth on the campuses, and in the public schools there is an eagerness for life untried by the law. The law is below the impatient powers of youth.

And these are America—the American long unemployed because employed below its own level, because its own powers.

Now let's be released! Released at every level! Released at every desk! Now the expert is needed as much as the creative creator, and as the creative creator.

—By Herblock

## Air Power Is The Key

By Raymond Clapper

WASHINGTON. DON'T think for a minute that we have the Japanese won their victory.

They have won their victory. They have won their victory. They have won their victory.

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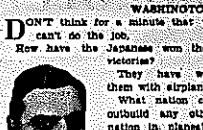
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CONTROL OF AIR IS KEY TO VICTORY. We are building more navy and all that. Everything will be needed, more ships for hauling, more navy for convoying, more guns, tanks and trained men to handle them. But none of it will be of much use without control of the air. We can get that. Once we do, then the power of everything else we have will be multiplied automatically.

Without it the rest of the stuff will be as useless as were those ships in Pearl Harbor which were meant enough in the air to protect them.

We don't need to revive that feud between the battleship and the plane. Each has its use. We lost some of our heavy ships because they were poorly protected against the new air power. We would have preferred to keep the fleet along the coast rather than at the Hawaiian outpost, exposed on all sides. Nobody thinks they should have been ganged up for a week-end in Pearl Harbor.

CAPITAL SHIPS CAN'T BE REPLACED SOON. But it is too late to bother about that now. Capital ships lost cannot be replaced for a long time. The question is how to deal with the new situation. It can be dealt with, and the announcement by William S. Knudsen of OPA shows that we are now in a position to do so.

Our present heavy-bomber program calling for 500 a month will be doubled, with the intention to produce 1,000 four-motored bombers a month by the end of next year. That, plus the necessary supporting planes, will be enough to meet our needs.

What we must depend upon. The plane is the quickest weapon to produce in quantity. Industrial laws are the easiest to replace. Enormous damage can be inflicted and the war spent in the sustaining follow-up attacks, whether by land or sea.

At the problem is seen here, Singapore must be held at all costs. Everything we can spare needs to be thrown in. Planes and submarines are the most effective contributions we could make now. If we are made in sufficient quantity, we will have good news out of Singapore. That will be good news indeed.

Because then the Pacific can be held and the sources of materials maintained. I am saying nothing here that your own common sense doesn't tell you as you look at the map. None of this can be news to the Japanese.

SHIPS MAY HAVE TO GO BEYOND AUSTRALIA. We may have to extend our shipping routes by going around under Australia. That would add several thousand miles to the haul. Convoys probably will be necessary in the Pacific, which means slower traveling Japanese raiders will get some rest. But when you see how the Germans have been unable to cut off shipping to England with their enormous numbers of submarines operating over comparatively small areas and congested routes, it is impossible to believe that the Japanese can cut off the Pacific. In spite of the position they have achieved this week.

So if Singapore can be held, the Pacific is not a hopeless loss at all and we can continue to maintain the necessary for war production. When we begin to have planes swarming into the air from Singapore, we can push back the Japanese advance and turn the tide.

P. S.—Planes cost money. Buy defense bonds and stamps.

## Visitin' Around

Who's Calling, Please? (North Wilkesboro Hustler)

While in Hickory a few hours several days ago H. B. Pharr and son Howard were called to see Mayor Thomas Mott who at different times used to visit his brother, late Solicitor M. L. Mott, in Wilkesboro, and has one sister here in present. Mrs. Ethel Pharr of the Hickory establishment has been president of Wilkesboro. He is a retired officer and has been living in Hickory since the World War and in which community he married. Not having been over in Wilkes for some time he made inquiry about several persons whom he had not seen any time recently.

We Ever Tell You The One About The Ruler In The Navy? (Hickory Item)

Forrest C. Courter, Durham, Duke, a soldier in the army, is spending this week with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Davis.



## For Service

### And Hospitality...

Editors, The News: I am writing this letter to tell you that the people of Charlotte appreciate deeply the work which you and your organization did in getting the white boys and a Negro were in custody, addresses of the white boys were withheld. The article stated that the white youths admitted participation in about ten thefts from cars.

—E. MCA, CURRIE, Mayor.

## TODAY'S BIBLE THOUGHT

Better return good for evil; it is the sign of a man. Day no I will do so to him as he hath done to me. I will render to his work—Proverbs 24:29.

## Senator Soaper Says

Add heretofore: The Order of the Rising Sun (first class) to Mr. Kurusu. Let's begin the new year with a convention until the gang get set for the kill.

Her torch equipped with powerful new vapor lamps, they made a new possible the Statute of Liberty among the Joe's hamburgers.