

ALL JAVANESE STRIKE HARD AT JAPAN INVADERS

Think Nazi Built Ships Attacking MacArthur

WASHINGTON. —(AP)—The War Department reported today that General Douglas MacArthur's forces were being bombed by enemy planes with unusual markings which "may have been German-built."

The raids, made behind the defenders' lines on the Bataan Peninsula, were local and failed to inflict damage, a communiqué said. Three reconnaissance planes were said to have had unusual markings, being painted black with white crosses on the wings.

Japan, the communiqué said, is believed to have had German-built planes in reserve.

LITTLE LAND LIGHTING Ground operations on the peninsula meanwhile continued to a virtual standstill in the past 24 hours, the War Department advised.

"There were practically no ground operations on the Bataan during the past 24 hours."

"Enemy air activities were confined to some local bombing raids behind our lines. No damage was inflicted. Among the enemy aircraft participating in the bombing were three two-engine planes with unusual markings. They were painted black with white crosses on the wings. They may have been German-built planes."

While Bataan was relatively quiet, a "hot battle" of American and Japanese troops attacked Japanese holding forces in northern Luzon Island and there has been no word since.

The attack on Iceland was a signal for an amphibious offensive, specialists said. It probably was not a drive against the Red Army.

F. R. Streamlines Army In Sweeping Reorganization

Military Functions Grouped Into Three Basic Units

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—President Roosevelt ordered today a stream-lined reorganization of the Army, giving new recognition to the importance of the air forces.

British Hold West Bank Of Sittang Strive To Smash Japanese Thrusts Toward Birming Capital

LONDON.—(AP)—British patrols ranging along the Sittang River fought today to break up fierce thrusts by Japanese forces massed in gathering strength for a drive across the river toward virtually deserted Rangoon, the Japanese radio reported.

On the 43-mile road north from Rangoon past Pugu and on to Mandalay the flow of trucks for China has been interrupted since the British-held Indian possessor of the hamlet beat Indian possessors fleeing toward their homeland and hopes of safety.

In the hard-bombed hill towns along the road there were 1,500 dead, it is reported to have been killed in the past few days of repeated air raids.

There still have been no word of Japanese attempts to land from the sea on the delta below the town, on westward where the majority of the military units could be employed on for loyal fifth column work when the hour arrives.

Washington Concerned Over Java's Dire Plight

More Bad News Awaited

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—The capital braced itself once more for bad tidings today as it waited with unconcealed concern for further news of the desperate fight being waged to hold Java in the teeth of an all-out Japanese invasion assault.

The fog of war and sketchy communications obscured the exact status of the savage battle, but the available details were not calculated to inspire optimism.

There were some crumbs of comfort in the heavy losses inflicted on the enemy by the sea, air and land forces of the United Nations.

Although American units were believed to be in action on all Java fronts, both Navy and War Department news was silent on developments. The last official word came from the Navy Saturday night when it was announced that in the "initial phase" of the battle for Java, American warships, operating with Allied units, put a Japanese cruiser and three destroyers out of action.

Advises from Java indicate that the sea fighting has since that time been extremely bitter and the Dutch units have been acknowledged. How U. S. vessels have fared was not indicated, but the character of the action led the capital to expect American losses.

The general opinion here was that the naval action was almost suicidal, with the desperate objective of inflicting the maximum damage on the sea and thereby interrupting the obvious chances that Java land forces might have to deal off the invaders. In contrast, the Navy announcement conceded the Japanese "overwhelming superiority" in naval strength.

There was no disposition here to believe that Java's fate would be settled overnight. On the contrary, it looked for this was evident that the hour of decision was at hand, with the odds frequently mounting against the next-to-the-last Allied bastion in the South Pacific, should Java fall, the United States would have left only Australia for their back-to-the-wall last stand.

There is no sound strategic reason why the Germans should invade Britain if she takes these vital positions," the informant said.



YANKS SET WATCHES BY BIG BEN—A Southerner and a Californian, Private Arthur N. Hansen of Cochise, Texas, (right), and Sergeant Arthur Heller (left) of Los Angeles, set their watches by the famous Big Ben in the background while visiting London with a group of American soldiers now stationed in Northern Ireland.

Nazis Admit Great Red Army Power

Germans Fighting Only Defensively, High Command Reports

The Hitler High Command gave the German people today an inkling of the scope of the Russian counter-offensive, with the added admission that the Reich's armies were fighting only defensively.

The first sentence of the daily war communiqué, announcing the results of intensive fighting, stated: "In the Crimea, on the Donets front and southeast from Leningrad, the fighting continues. It was one of the heaviest admissions that the far of the Red Army's striking power."

Protection Demanded Marshall Deplores Calls To Keep Men at Home

WASHINGTON.—The Senate passed and sent back to the House a \$22,792,737,500 military appropriations bill today after being informed by General George C. Marshall, Chief of Staff, that it would proceed with the business of carrying the war to the enemy.

Approval of the measure on a vote vote came quickly after Senator Austin, Republican, Vermont, had read to the Senate a letter from Marshall explaining that the Army must divert some planes for soldiers to guard and maintain because it could not permit the greater portion of our United forces and our valuable machinery to be immobilized within the United States.

Furious Blows Delivered By Isle Defenders

Situation Admittedly Grave but Japs Are Taking Terrific Pounding

RANDEONG, Java. (By Telephone to New York), 10:30 P. M. (12 Noon EWT).—(AP)—An Allied counter stroke delivered against Japanese invasion forces wedging into Java was declared officially tonight to have "developed satisfactorily" but all details of the hard fighting defense were kept secret.

The official war report acknowledged flatly that "the vital installations in this capital of The Netherlands East Indies has been started as a preliminary measure. Aneta agency said today, quoting an authoritative source. It added, however, that there was "no question" of any immediate threat to the city.

"Up to now," it continued, "there is no information received about fifth column activities. Everywhere our troops are going to meet the Japanese."

The Dutch and Allied counter moves against the invaders' three hard-won beachheads were described in the communiqué with these words: "From well-informed circles it is heard that action against the Japanese troops developed satisfactorily. Although in connection with the character of the operations no details can be published, it can be said that the enemy received fair hits."

Staggering losses inflicted on the invaders by Allied air attacks and the stubborn ground defense, the Japanese were believed to have landed five and a half divisions—some 85,000 men—on Java.

Reporter Gets Close To Fighting On Java

Netherlands East Indies Journalist NEAR THE MIDDLE JAVA FRONT—A reporter in AP's first post was today very close to a point very close to where fighting was in progress today, but it would not be possible to disclose the name of the fiercely contested position.

Dutch troops were hurled into action and their tanks were reported to have obtained some results in a counter attack.

It is highly significant that there has been little enemy air activity in support of the landing defenders the Japanese apparently thought they were being

New U. S. Destroyer Bags Sub First Trip

NEW YORK.—A brand new United States destroyer recently met and almost certainly dealt successfully with an enemy submarine within 48 hours of the time the ship was first sent through the cold North Atlantic. The Third Naval District discovered today upon the official record of the vessel and the observation of a public relations officer temporarily assigned to her.

Attack Upon Iceland Seen

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—The attack on Iceland would be a signal for an amphibious offensive, specialists said. It probably was not a drive against the Red Army.

Germans Strike Predicted By London Source

LONDON.—(AP)—A German attack on American-occupied Iceland is anticipated by a London source.

WEATHER section with a map of Java and surrounding islands. The map shows major cities like Batavia, Surabaya, and Medan. To the right is a weather icon and text: 'Today's Temp.: H. 87; L. 83. Sunset Today 7:10. Sunrise Tomorrow 7:10.' Below this is a 'WEATHER' section with a small weather icon and text: 'Moderate snow, possibly mixed with rain this week and fairly light tonight.'

The destroyer, with a new crew, steamed out of a northern port almost before her last coat of gray was painted was dry.

Launched only last September, she had never had any test run. Her crew has been assembled. Many of her crew were inexperienced at sea. But all had drilled thoroughly ashore in the duties of their respective stations.

LONDON.—(AP)—The German Air Force units in Norway were called into action to meet the indications that the Germans were preparing a thrust at the island which guards the North Atlantic sea lane.

"There is no sound strategic reason why the Germans should invade Britain if she takes these vital positions," the informant said.