Not War—Only Defeat—Destroys the Freedom Of Men And The Privileges Of Democracy

Livest Newspaper In The Carolinas

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

★★★★ Final

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NAZI ATTACKS ON CONVOY REPELLED

JAP INVASION BASE BATTERED BY ALLIES

Guinea Point Raided From Height of 26,000 Feet

Hits Are Scored In Assault

By C. YATES McDANIEL

MELBOURNE — (AP) — New aerial hammer blows on the Japanese invasion base of Lae, New Guinea, were announced today as reports told again of Allied airmen clearly stamping their superiority over the enemy.

United States Flying Fortresses over New Guinea have been beating off the Japanese fighter planes to construct five miles high with the tail gunner proving especially deadly against air attacks advices from Townsville, Queensland, said.

TRIBUTE TO GEN. BLAMEY

In a tribute to General Sir Thomas Blamey, commander in chief of Allied land forces in Australia, Prime Minister John Curtin disclosed that the return of part of the Australian Imperial Force from the Middle East was achieved without a single adverse incident.

He also praised the aid of British naval and other forces.

In the bombardment yesterday of the Lae airdrome from an altitude of 26,000 feet, a communique said, direct hits were scored on hangars and runways and buildings alongside it were set afire. Bad weather hampered the raiders.

Seven Japanese bombers dropped 25 to 30 bombs on the Darwin airdrome, the communique said, but caused neither damage nor casualties. It said one United Nations plane was reported missing but its crew probably was safe.

At a reception to Blamey, Curtin disclosed that the British Government and Prime Minister Churchill himself had agreed to the buttressing of a portion of the Australian forces in the Mediterranean basin to give to the stiffening of battle-seasoned veterans.

MUST BE READY

Blamey told interviewers that Australians must be prepared to stand up to anything that comes and warned the people the most give their all, in every possible way, and quickly for 1942 may be the year which will determine the life or death of Australia as a nation.

Whether or not invasion comes, he said, the commonwealth must be prepared.

"There is no question," he

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Admit Great Damage in Raid

BERN, Switzerland — (AP) — The RAF bombing raid on Germany's important Baltic Sea port of Lubeck last Saturday night was "the heaviest attack of its kind yet undertaken in the present war," the Berlin correspondent of the Neue Zuercher Zeitung reported today.

He related that while civilian casualties were severe, they were modest compared with the material damage inflicted. The correspondent declared that, while the German High Command acknowledged destruction of a large number of civilian buildings, there could be no doubt that industrial establishments suffered heavy damage.

Standard Denies Any Disloyalty To United States

President Farish Blasts Testimony Firm Hurt Rubber Development

WASHINGTON —(AP)— W. S. Farish, president of the Standard Oil Company (New Jersey) described today as without "a shadow of foundation" testimony that the company had prevented or delayed development of synthetic rubber in the United States.

"The facts and the record," he told the Senate Defense Investigating Committee, are exactly to the contrary."

REFLY TO ARNOLD

Farish appeared before the committee in reply to testimony by Thurman Arnold, assistant attorney general in charge of anti-trust enforcement that the company had frustrated development of synthetic rubber in the United States as a result of cartel agreements made with I. G. Farben of Germany before the United States entered the war.

"Any charges that the Standard Oil Company or any of its officers has been in the slightest respect disloyal to the United States is unwarranted and untrue," Farish asserted, reading from a statement.

"I repel all such insinuations with all the vigor at my com-

See STANDARD on Page 7

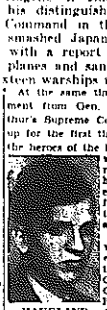
Americans Show Superiority In Air

Jap Flying Put to Shame by Work Of United States Airmen

By VERN HAUGLAND

UNITED STATES ARMY HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA —(AP)— Col. Eugene L. Eubank, himself cited for three awards for his distinguished service as head of the U. S. Bomber Command in the Philippines and the Dutch East Indies, smashed Japanese claims to superior flying ability today with a report that his men shot down 50 enemy fighter planes and sank or seriously damaged 46 transports and sixteen warships up to March 1.

At the same time an announcement from Gen. Douglas MacArthur's Supreme Command rounded up for the first time the names of the heroes of the bomber command who already have received or have been recommended for decorations for their work in the Philippines and the Indies.



HAUGLAND

Col. Eubanks was recommended for the Distinguished Flying Cross, for the Order of the Purple Heart and for the Silver Star Award. Posthumous awards of the Distinguished Service cross already have been made to Capt. Colin P. Kelly Jr., who scored three hits which sank the battleship Haruna but was shot down before he could reach his base.

Col. Eubank gave the first detailed report of bombing operations from the start of the war in the Pacific until the fall of Java, bearing out the previous assertion of Lieut.-Gen. George H. Brett, commander of Allied Air Forces in the Pacific, that the Americans had shot down more than three planes in one.

Colonel Eubank of Fort Arthur, Texas, and Albuquerque, N. M., said the Japanese losses he listed did not include numerous planes destroyed on the ground.

"Our losses in action were extremely low, especially considering

See AMERICANS on Page 8

India Balks At Clause

Feeling Grows British Plan May Fail

NEW DELHI —(AP)—Growing indications that the British proposal to grant India dominion status might break down over the British insistence on retaining control of India's defense during the war came today from the All-India Congress Executive Committee and other sources.

Mohandas Gandhi's son Devadas wrote in the Hindustan Times that the defense issue might cause the Congress, dominant political party of the great sub-continent, to reject the offer Sir Stafford Cripps brought from the British Government. The younger Gandhi said opposition was strong in the Congress.

NO CHANGE

Sir Stafford has stated emphatically at a press conference that there would be no revision in Britain's decision to retain defense control during the war.

An atmosphere of depression grew tonight as a result of a general feeling that the conferences would prove unsuccessful.

The feeling extended even to Sir Stafford who told his press conference that he was holding his remaining interviews at an accel-

See INDIA BALKS on Page 7

Relentless Spring Push Pressed by Red Armies

Batter Hard at German Bases

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

Russia's armies, pressing a relentless Spring offensive amid the thawing snows of Winter, were reported battering heavily at key German bases along the entire front today while the Nazi High Command claimed aerial successes and the destruction of 183 Soviet tanks between March 23 and March 30.

German Field Headquarters acknowledged severe Russian pressure in the Ukraine, on the central (Moscow) front, and in the far north, but asserted that Nazi dive-bombers had "frustrated" a tank-led Soviet attack in the critical battle around Lake Ilmen.

The High Command described the dive-bombing assault as taking place "northeast of Lake Ilmen", presumably referring to the Staraya Russa sector where the German 16th Army has been trapped for many weeks.

FORCE NAZI RETREAT

Soviet front-line dispatches said fierce Red Army cavalrymen, attacking in the same region northwest of Moscow, beat off a stiff German attack, forced the Nazis to retreat and seized an important populated place.

The Russians reported important new successes before Leningrad, with the Red Army starting to roll back German and Finnish forces along the whole sector.

The Soviet radio announced the capture of an "important strategic point" in the Leningrad area. The point was not identified, but Leningrad's defenders have long been seeking to recapture Schlusselburg, on Lake Ladoga, to open a new land route of supplies to the beleaguered metropolis.

A bulletin from Adolf Hitler's headquarters said German bombers again attacked the Soviet Arctic supply port of Murmansk, and claimed three British bombers were shot down "in an attempt to fly by night into occupied Norwegian territory."

Chinese Accuse Japs of Trying Germ Warfare

CHUNGKING, China—(AP)—A Chinese Government spokesman at a press conference today accused Japan of starting germ warfare and said full information on the charges would be formally transmitted to United Nations Governments.

An investigation by noted foreign and Chinese medical experts had established that a Japanese plane on Nov. 3 dropped infected material at Changteh in Hunan Province which caused the death of six persons by bubonic plague, the spokesman said.

The findings of the experts had been unanimous, he declared.

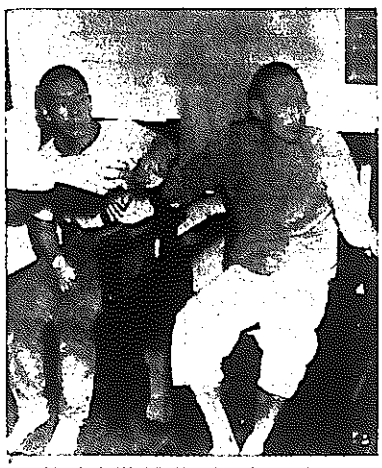
"When the day of reckoning comes the United Nations should give effect to the principal of individual criminal responsibility of those officers and men who ordered or carried out such inhuman methods of warfare, as well as to the principal of state responsibility," said the spokesman.

Lili Divorces Errol Flynn

LOS ANGELES,—(AP)—The stormy marriage of Lili Damita and Errol Flynn of swashbuckling movie fame ended today. The French-born actress was granted a divorce on grounds of mental cruelty.

The two were married in Yuma, Ariz., in 1935, when Flynn, a native of Ireland, was just embarking on a screen career that soon vaulted him into the high money brackets.

Miss Damita was a former movie and musical comedy actress in France.



JAP PRISONERS—Two Jap airmen, shot down during attacks on Manila last December, are pictured in this U. S. Army Signal Corps picture just received via Australia.

British & Red Forces Defeat Navy Assault

Germans Hurt in Trying To Stop Ships Carrying U. S., British Goods

LONDON—(AP)—German naval attacks on a convoy carrying British and American supplies to Murmansk have been beaten off by British and Russian forces with one large German destroyer crippled and three U-boats severely damaged if not sunk, the Admiralty announced today.

The first British account of the northern sea battle, about which the Germans have been boasting for four days, said two British ships were damaged, the new 8,000-ton cruiser Trinidad and the 1,375-ton destroyer Eclipse. Both returned to their port, however, a communique said.

Today's British communique said one large German destroyer was "crippled and set on fire" and another "stopped." Then it recalled that the Germans themselves have admitted the sinking of one of their destroyers, implying that one of the two damaged went down.

SNOWSTORMS RAGE

The British and Russians engaged the enemy Sunday as the convoy was ploughing its way slowly through heavy seas. Visibility, reduced by frequent snowstorms, hindered the operations.

The Trinidad opened fire on one large enemy destroyer which the crippled and set on fire, the Admiralty communique said. The Eclipse scored a direct hit on a German destroyer but the arrival of two more German destroyers forced her to break off the engagement.

The Germans, in four days of continuing reports of naval successes against the convoy, have claimed the sinking of three transports, a fourth probably sunk, one British cruiser torpedoed and another convoy vessel damaged by bombs.

Two additional destroyers escaped the Trinidad after she had started to chase them.

The British said the United Nations' forces, in addition to engaging in the surface battles, discovered the presence of U-boats and three of them were "severely damaged if not sunk."

Count 5,000 Jap Dead

Chinese Battle Enemy In Burma Section

CHUNGKING, China—(AP)—More than 5,000 Japanese dead have been counted by the Chinese around Toungoo, Burma, up to March 29, in heavy fighting which still is raging, a Chinese communique declared today.

The Japanese-held airdrome at Kyungon, ten miles north of Toungoo, was recaptured by the Chinese Sunday morning, the communique said. A whole Japanese battalion was reported annihilated and large amounts of war supplies were seized.

After recapturing four villages southwest of Yedashe, the Chinese continued their push southward, a Chinese Army spokesman added.

British Forces in Burma In a Difficult Plight

NEW DELHI, India—(AP)—British forces in Burma were in a difficult plight today, fighting with inadequate air support, amid hostile people and, apparently, with their motorized vanguards cut off by a swift, deep Japanese advance around their flank.

At the same time, the Chinese, defending the eastern anchor of the United Nations' line guarding the road to Mandalay and to the rich oil fields of lower Burma, were fighting to hold the Toungoo stronghold

See COUNT 5,000 on Page 7

Charge Hospital Ship Attacked

TOKYO (From Japanese Broadcasts) — (AP) — Imperial Headquarters charged today a clearly marked Japanese hospital ship sailing unprotected into Koepang Bay, Dutch Timor, had been attacked by a Lockheed type aircraft of the British Air Force March 26.

The aircraft dropped five bombs which exploded approximately 110 yards to port, Imperial Headquarters said. It asserted that no Japanese war vessels were within two miles of the hospital ship.

Bataan Hospital Bombed By Japs

Number of Casualties Caused by Enemy Attack on Base Unit

WASHINGTON —(AP)— The War Department reported today that a base hospital in Bataan was bombed by the Japanese at noon yesterday, causing a number of casualties.

Plainly marked, the hospital had been avoided carefully by enemy bombers until yesterday, the Department said.

Heavy aerial bombardment of the Manila Bay harbor defenses, accompanied by fire from enemy shore batteries, continued day and night, a communique said, but little damage has been inflicted, and a battery firing from Fort Hughes hit and destroyed an enemy launch in Manila Bay.

The text of the communique, No. 169, based on reports received here up to 9:30 A. M. Eastern War Time:

"1. Philippine theater:

"Except for sharp clashes between patrols, there was no ground fighting in Bataan during the past 24 hours. The enemy continued aerial bombardment of our front lines and rear areas. At noon on March 30, a base hospital in Bataan was bombed by the Japanese, causing a number of casualties. This hospital was plainly marked and had been carefully avoided by the enemy bombers until yesterday.

"Both day and night air raids on our harbor defenses continue intermittently. Thus far little damage has been inflicted. The day raids yesterday were accompanied by fire from enemy shore batteries on Cavite Peninsula. The guns of our forts returned the fire. A battery firing from Fort Hughes detected an enemy launch in Manila Bay.

"2. There is nothing to report from other areas."

Report Jap Attack On British Convoy

LONDON—(AP)—The Rome radio in a broadcast heard by Exchange Telegraph reported a Japanese official announcement of a Japanese submarine attack on a British convoy sailing from Aden.

Suit Threat Faces Dies

Step Considered by Board Official

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The threat of a libel suit faced Chairman Dies, Democrat, Texas, of the House Committee on UnAmerican activities today as a result of his charges that "at least 25 high officials" of the Board of Economic Warfare had been affiliated with Communist-front organizations.

David H. Vaughan, chief of the board's administrative management division, said in a statement:

"I am making inquiries through my attorney to see whether Mr. Dies' statement is privileged. If it is not, I will ask that action be instituted against Mr. Dies for libel."

WALLACE ANSWERS

Dies made public his charges Sunday and Vice-President Wallace, chairman of the Economic Warfare Board, to whom Dies wrote demanding removal of the officials, immediately defended these charges, and contended Dies' statement was worthy of having been made by a German propagandist. The letter was put in the appendix of the Congressional Record yesterday by Representative Cox, Democrat, Georgia.

Last night Dies announced he would recommend that the committee invite Wallace to appear before it and also that it supply him with all data available to it to support the charges.

Carole Landis To Wed Markey

LOS ANGELES —(AP)— Blonde Carole Landis of the films is flying to Washington, D. C., to marry Gene Markey, screen writer-producer and now a lieutenant commander in the U. S. Navy. She left behind home surprised studio officials to whom she had not confided her intentions.

Shaggy Miss Landis was nonconformist as she boarded a United Air Lines mainliner last night. She declined to say when the marriage would take place, but she has to be back at work next week.

German Women Given Death for Food Hoarding

BERN, Switzerland —(AP)— The first two death sentences under Germany's drastically strengthened food regulations have been handed down against two women who are nurses in a children's home, dispatches from Berlin said today.

They were found guilty of hoarding four tons of sugar, candy and soap.

Propaganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels warned recently in the weekly publication, Das Reich, that the "most drastic penalties" would be imposed on hoarders and black market food operators.

AP's Clark Lee Reaches Australia After Adventures In Philippines

MELBOURNE, Australia —(AP)— Clark Lee, Associated Press correspondent whose dispatches from the footholds of Bataan were described by U. S. Army men as "the best the war has produced on any front," has reached Australia to continue his work of covering the hero of the Philippine stand, General Douglas MacArthur.

Lee left the Philippines a few days ahead of General MacArthur, who made a dramatic dash by speedboat and airplane to take supreme command in the southwest Pacific. Just how Lee traveled has not yet been revealed.

Lee, a native of Oakland, Calif., joined the Associated Press in 1929. He was on his way home from serving in the Orient when the war with Japan caught him in Manila.

LEE

His graphic dispatches reported the steady encirclement of Manila, from the time the Japanese landed in north until he sent word that the southern Japanese wing, advancing from Atimonan, was within 30 minutes by automobile of Manila.

Then he was not heard from until Jan. 9. He had escaped to Corregidor fortress in Manila Bay, and he began telling the great story of Bataan Peninsula.

His dispatches reached into American homes with a vivid picture of the heroic American-Filipino stand against superior odds at a time when many still were bewildered by the "sneak blow" at Pearl Harbor.

Remember some of the Bataan heroes who emerged in Lee's dispatches?

There was the "No. 1 one-man army," Captain Arthur W. Wermuth of Chicago. A big, bearded former football player, who was fighting a war "fearlessly and for keeps," Wermuth had killed 116 Japanese and captured many

See CLARK LEE on Page 7

More U-Boat Raiding Expected With Advent Of Spring Weather

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER

WASHINGTON, —(AP)— German U-Boats, which have averaged a ship a day in American waters this month, can be expected to intensify their raiding in the weeks ahead as the weather becomes more favorable.

But better weather will work both ways, naval experts said explaining that it would be equally favorable for air and surface anti-submarine operations, with a resultant heavier destruction of raiders.

The experts asserted that the Nazis almost certainly had not reached the full power of their long distance undersea offensive against coastal shipping and that an increased number of submarines probably would appear in American waters in the near future.

MEASURES TAKEN

To offset this admittedly gloomy prospect, however, these authorities cited increasingly effective anti-submarine measures, including:

1. Assignment of more and more patrol planes and blimps to the Eastern sea frontier command of Rear Admiral Adolphus Andrews, who only last week was given unified control of Army as well as Navy aircraft engaged in sub hunting.

2. More general adherence by merchant ship skippers to the Navy regulations that vessels traveling in coastal waters at night should run without lights and, day or night, should stick to patrolled lanes.

3. Partial blackouts of the heretofore brightly lighted sections of the coast which are believed to have aided the U-

See MORE U-B on Page 7

WEATHER

Colder tonight, with light to heavy frost.

Today's Temp.: H., 51; L., 42
Sunset Today ——— 7:48
Sunrise Tomorrow ——— 7:10

Additional U. S. Weather Bureau data will be found on page 7.

Note To Readers

Dispatches from Berlin, Rome, Tokyo and other enemy centers are published by The News with the caution that they frequently contain false statements intended for propaganda purposes. This should be taken into consideration when reading the stories credited to Axis sources.