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ALLIES EVACUATE BATAVIA WHILE JAPS DRIVE TO CUT JAVA IN HALF

Powerful Jap Drive On Australia Is Predicted

Stronger Burma Push Also Seen

WASHINGTON. — (AP) — A powerful drive against Australia, designed to knock out the Darwin naval base and envelop the whole north coast of the continent, was predicted here today as Japan's next move in her lightning campaign to dominate the entire southwest Pacific before the United Nations can hope to take the offensive.

At the same time military and naval experts said it was probable that the drive into Burma would be intensified in line with the apparent Japanese strategy of trying to close the Burma Road to China permanently and also place strong forces in position for an invasion of India.

GLOOM HEAVY

Thus as the third month of the war ended, qualified observers here found scant excuse for any optimism in the whole vast theater of Pacific-Asiatic operations, and the general belief was that barring some surprise action on the part of the Allies the disastrous sequence of events which started at Pearl Harbor Dec. 7 must be expected to continue in the immediate future.

It was noted, however, that the pattern of war the world over was not one of unrelieved gloom. In the British Isles, where fresh thousands of American troops landed this week, in Washington and even in embattled Java indications were that some sort of Allied counter-action was in the making. Where and how far in the future it might be undertaken remained subjects of merest conjecture.

But the Russian offensive against the once undefeated German Army continued to press slowly westward in the greatest achievement of Allied arms to date, and it was believed here that the switch from Burma to India as a gateway for supplies to China would not materially hamper the Chinese forces, at least for the time being.

U. S. NAVY STRIKING

Moreover the United States Navy, in spite of its preoccupation with the world-wide task of keeping supply lines open and battling U-boat raiders in the Atlantic, had so far recovered from the blow at Pearl Harbor that it was extending its operations in the Central Pacific deep into Japan's mandated islands area, menacing the enemy's eastern outposts and supply lines.

Against these evidences of growing Allied strength, bolstered by the steady increase of munitions production in the United States, the situations in Java and Burma and recurrent Axis hints of a gigantic Nazi offensive in the Spring weighed most heavily, experts said.

Few informed persons here held any hope that the defense of Java

See SEE DRIVE on page 10

Mooney, Frisco Bombing Tragedy Principal, Dies

Served 22 Years For Bombing

SAN FRANCISCO — (AP) — Tom Mooney, 58, labor leader who served 22 years in prison for the 1916 San Francisco preparedness parade bombing died in St. Luke's Hospital here early today.

The grey-haired Mooney, released in 1939 from San Quentin Prison, where he had grown old, underwent his fourth major abdominal operation last Monday.

He was believed recovering satisfactorily only yesterday, but at 1:20 A. M. today he lapsed into unconsciousness and died at 2:25 A. M., PWT. His sister, Anna, and his brother, John, were at the bedside.

TEN WERE KILLED

Mooney and Warren K. Billings were convicted respectively of first and second degree murder in the Market Street blast which killed ten persons and injured 40.

President Wilson intervened and Mooney's death sentence was commuted to life imprisonment, the same sentence Billings had received.

Throughout the years Mooney fought for freedom, contending he was "framed" by perjured testimony because of his activities as a labor organized.

Labor and other groups clamored for his freedom and his case went before the United States Su-

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MOONEY

Rangoon and Pegu Still In British Possession

Situation Not Any Worse

LONDON — (AP) — The British situation in Burma has not worsened in the past three days and both Rangoon and Pegu, strategic rail junction, 40 miles to the north, still are in British hands, a military commentator declared today.

He admitted the position of the defenders was serious, but insisted that "it is no worse today than it was yesterday, or the day before or the day before that."

A dispatch from Mandalay said British Army headquarters at Rangoon reported no change in the situation. The text of this communique was not immediately available, however.

The commentator declared that the British and their Allies, Indian troops and Chinese, were putting up "a magnificent scrap," although badly outnumbered by the Japanese columns which forced passages of the lower Sittang River earlier this week.

HEAVY FIGHTING

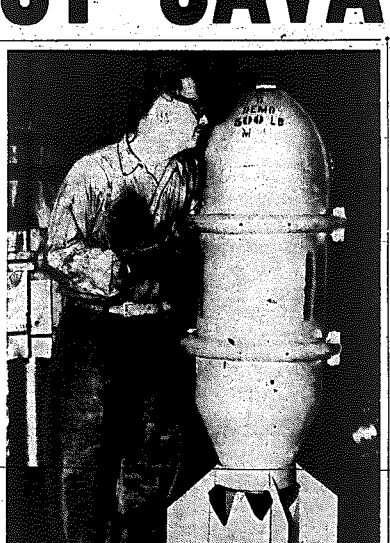
Yesterday's Burma Command communique reported heavy fighting at Waw, fifteen miles northeast of Pegu. Japanese troops at this point were in a position to drive southwest along the western shores of the Gulf of Martaban along a two-lane highway traversing level rice country to Rangoon.

The All-India radio, which normally broadcasts the Burma communique, said today the usual military bulletin from Rangoon had not been received but quoted the following "supplementary report issued by the headquarters of the Army in Burma yesterday":

"Skirmishing is still taking place in the neighborhood of Waw, northeast of Pegu. Otherwise the situation on the southern front is unchanged.

"Rangoon is quiet and no enemy air activity has been reported over the town."

Yesterday the Rome radio, which frequently announces Japanese victories falsely or prematurely, reported the capture of Rangoon.



KISS OF DEATH—FOR OUR ENEMIES — Five-hundred-pound demolition bomb gets final inspection and, apparently, a goodby kiss in a Philadelphia ordnance district plant. Fins are shown here, but usual practice is to attach them later at airfields. Bands around bomb facilitate handling.

Tokyo Claims Occupation Of Indies Capital

Bandoeng, Allies Defense Center, Hears Artillery Fire

BANDOENG, Java.—(AP)—Dutch and Allied defense forces have evacuated Batavia, once-proud capital of The Netherlands' East Indies empire, it was announced today, while the Japanese invaders occupied all of northwestern Java and all but cut the island in half by capturing Jogjakarta far to the east.

The outnumbered and weary defenders were withdrawn from Batavia, a delayed communique from the High Command reported, so that they could consolidate their thinning ranks in more favorable positions for the battle of western Java, presumably in the high plateau around the military headquarters at Bandoeng.

"As a result of the enemy's great superiority and mastership of the air," said the High Command, "Our troops are exposed continuously to such violent bombardment that they have been unable to rest for many days and now are gradually becoming overtired.

"This makes the situation serious, but not hopeless," it added.

Jogjakarta, with a population of about 130,000 Indonesians and 6,000 Europeans, lies in middle Eastern Java less than fifteen miles from the island's south coast.

These were but two of the places which the communique conceded lost to the foe.

DUTCH RETAKE POINT

On the credit side of the defenders, however, was a report that a point previously lost to the Japanese had been regained by a Dutch attack today. Evidently this town—not at once identified—was on the arc of invasion 25 miles north of Bandoeng.

Bandoeng, now the focus of defense, heard artillery fire today, perhaps from one of the three regions of penetration to its north: Poerwakarta to the north and west; Kalidjati to the north, and Soebang to the north and east. It may be that one of these places which the Dutch regained.

Aneta, authoritative Dutch news agency, said it was reliably learned tonight that all NEI forces —and, presumably, any of their British, Australian and American Allies that were with them, had withdrawn from a great section of western Java, leaving it to the invader.

HOLLOW PRIZE

It was believed, Aneta said, that Batavia either had been occupied or shortly would be taken. But the Japanese will find it somewhat a hollow prize. All important installations there had been destroyed in advance, it was said, and many persons moved to the interior.

(Tokyo's Imperial Headquarters announced today that the invaders completed occupation of Batavia at 9:30 P. M., yesterday, at the end of the fifth day of the Java campaign.)

Bandoeng, 60 airline miles south-

See BATAVIA on page 10

Dutch Strike Hard Blow

Drive Japs From Area On Bandoeng Plains

LONDON—(AP)—Dutch forces, in a terrific frontal attack, drove the Japanese from a section of the plains of Bandoeng which the invaders occupied yesterday, Reuters reported from Bandoeng today.

(Other dispatches from Bandoeng reported Allied recapture of one unidentified point.)

The Japanese have withdrawn to the north, Reuters said.

Heavy artillery fire in mountain defenses to the north could be heard in Bandoeng.

In Eastern Java, the Japanese have been pushed back in some sectors, Reuters continued. Indications are that the main battle will be fought around Bandoeng.

Pocket Tightened By Russian Forces

Re-Capture of Yukhnov Imperils Nazis in Rzhev-Vyazma Zone

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Russian encirclement of the 16th German Army about Staraya, Russa, was coupled today with a constriction of the Nazi-held Rzhev-Vyazma pocket on the central front through recapture of Yukhnov.

Yukhnov is a Urga River town 120 miles southwest of Moscow and 50 miles southeast of Vyazma, skirted in Russian thrusts westward toward Smolensk. Soviet authorities said it had been heavily fortified and reinforced by German troops ferried east by plane.

Russians reported more than 500 Germans were killed along one mile of the sector after Red Army detachments penetrated their lines despite heavy artillery fire; that the fleeing survivors abandoned their wounded and failed to destroy their munition dumps.

After nine weeks without an alarm, Moscow was raided again last night. Although Soviet anti-aircraft shells blazed spectacularly over the capital, some damage and casualties resulted from the bombing, which the Russian radio described as "at random."

LIBYAN FIGHTING

Axis forces dispersed strong British patrols in an engagement in the Libyan desert near Tmimi, some 60 miles west of Tobruk, the Italian High Command reported.

Senate Kills Prohibition

S. C. Body Votes 25-19 Against Dry Law

COLUMBIA, S. C. —(AP)— The Senate killed its prohibition bill today by a roll call vote of 25 to 19.

After more than an hour of debate during which Senator Laney of Chesterfield, champion of the dry forces, urged passage of a "straight dry bill without any amendments," the Senate adopted a majority unfavorable report by the finance committee.

Meanwhile, in the House where the drys have an apparent majority, efforts by wets to delay action on a resolution to call up a

See S. C. SENATE on page 10

Americans Held by Nazis Will Be Released Soon

LONDON—(AP)—The 140 American diplomats and journalists assembled at Bad Neuheim, Germany, are expected to leave for Lisbon on the way home at the end of March, a Berlin report quoted in a Stockholm dispatch to Exchange Telegraph said today.

Again Urge MacArthur For Pacific Commander

MELBOURNE —(AP)— The Melbourne Sun repeated its proposal that Gen. Douglas MacArthur be appointed Allied commander-in-chief in the Southwest Pacific and declared today that his gallant stand in the Philippines had made him the most popular figure of the Pacific war.

The newspaper said such an appointment would be welcomed widely by Australians.

American Aviators Saluted By Chiang

CHUNGKING—(AP) — Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek told American Volunteer Group fliers with the Chinese Air Force that "when victory is ours, I hope to celebrate with you in Tokyo the successful issue of the war."

He spoke at a dinner at which the American fliers were honored at Kunming last Saturday.

"The American Volunteer Group of the Chinese Air Force has acquired a world-wide reputation for the greatest courage . . . and the splendid victories the AVG has won in the air, and the glory belongs to China and our American ally alike," Chiang said.

He told the American pilots that every one of them had proved "a match for 30 or more of the enemy," and said:

"The blows you have struck at the Japanese have put you in the forefront of Allied forces fighting the aggressor . . .

"I am entertaining you today as my comrades in arms, and on behalf of my 450,000,000 fellow countrymen I salute you, confident that you will continue together with all the Allied forces in Burma to display your valor until final victory is won over our common enemy."

MacArthur Attack Upsets Jap Plans

Enemy Activities on Bataan in Last 24 Hours "Negligible"

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The War Department reported today that the success of the Subic Bay air attack announced two days ago was believed to have dislocated Japanese plans for immediate renewal of the offensive against General Douglas MacArthur's forces, and that enemy activities in the last 24 hours in Bataan were "negligible."

The Department said also that a Japanese Army order directing Filipinos in occupied areas to surrender guns and blade weapons of every description was interpreted by MacArthur as indicating that the invaders were afraid of a popular uprising.

The text of the communique, number 137, based on reports received here up to 9:30 A. M. Eastern War Time:

"1. Philippine theater:

"Enemy activities during the past twenty-four hours were negligible. It is believed that Japanese plans for an immediate renewal of the offensive were dislocated by our successes in the Subic Bay air attack.

"A copy of an order issued by the Japanese Army in the Philippines which has reached General MacArthur's headquarters directs the Filipinos in occupied areas to surrender guns and blade weapons of every description, including ornamental and utilitarian knives and trophies.

"This order would operate to

See PLANS SPOILED on page 10

Weather Grounds RAF

LONDON—(AP) — The RAF was kept grounded by "terrible" weather over the continent last night, the second in a row, British sources said today.

Debt Limit Soaring

Now Headed Toward $125,000,000,000

WASHINGTON—(AP)—The House Ways and Means Committee unanimously approved today legislation to increase the Federal debt limit from $65,000,000,000 to the record-breaking total of $125,000,000,000.

The action came quickly after Secretary Morgenthau had testified that the Treasury expects to run out of borrowing power before the end of next month and had expressed strong opposition to any forced savings plan at this time to obtain revenue.

While testifying on the measure, Morgenthau told the committee:

"At this time I hope that the committee will not force on me forced savings. We are just getting underway with a voluntary plan.

"All indications are that the people are going to respond in a big

See FEDERAL on page 10

Appropriations Bill Is Signed

WASHINGTON —(AP)— A $32,762,737,900 appropriations bill — the largest in history — was signed by President Roosevelt to provide vast additional funds for the Army, Lend-Lease aid, and the Maritime Commission.

The new allotments brought to more than $142,000,000,000 the total appropriated thus far for defense and war during the years 1941, '42 and '43.

Seize Aliens in Baton Rouge Area

BATON ROUGE, La.—(AP) — Twenty-three aliens were taken into custody in this area last night by FBI agents in a series of raids on German and Italian nationals living within the vicinity of industrial plants, an air field and the Mississippi River bridge.

J. E. Clegg, head of the FBI in New Orleans, said the following was confiscated: Eleven pistols, seven rifles, 30 shotguns, 1,236 rounds of ammunition, 21 cameras, 3 sets of binoculars, 30 shortwave radio sets (all of these ordinary home receiving sets) two swords and one dirk and scabbard.

Fire at Wool Storage Plant

BOSTON.—(AP)—Fire of undetermined origin swept through the six story National Wool Marketing Corporation storage plant—housing 1,500,000 pounds of wool—today, but company officials said that most of the clip could be salvaged and the loss would be comparatively low.

WEATHER

Slightly lower temperature tonight.

Friday's Temp.: H. 54; L. 36
Sunset Today 7:23
Sunrise Tomorrow 7:45

Additional U. S. Weather Bureau data will be found on page 9-B.

Tokyo Reports:

Say "Special Attack Flotilla" Hit Pearl Harbor Night Of Dec. 7

TOKYO—(From Japanese Broadcasts)—(AP)—Imperial Headquarters declared today that a "special attack flotilla" of the Japanese Fleet delivered the sea-borne attack on Pearl Harbor on the night of Dec. 7, more than thirteen hours after the original assault by air, sinking a battleship of the Arizona class.

This assertion came in after-death citation and promotion for nine officers of the flotilla which never came back — presumably blown up by its own hands or sunk by the defenders.

SWIFT ATTACKS

(All official United States accounts of the Pearl Harbor episode have indicated that all damage, both afloat and ashore, was done in one swift co-ordinated attack by planes and two-man submarines.

(The Japanese report of a night naval attack following the early morning air raid would be a natural line for propagandists to take in an attempt to cause confusion or create doubt as to the accuracy of accounts made public by the United States Government.

(The Roberts Commission report on the Pearl Harbor attack called it the work of planes from either three or four Japanese carriers with supporting surface craft and "a few small submarines," three of which were accounted for.

(One was sunk between 6:33 and 6:45 A. M., off Pearl Harbor, another depth-bombed, rammed and sunk inside the harbor between 8:35 and 8:43 A. M., and a third which grounded in Kaneohe Bay and was captured.

(The third was found to be a two-man craft of short range and with an explosive charge built into its nose so that it could be used as a torpedo itself.

(On the question of their action, the Roberts report summarized: "There is no evidence of any damage by for-

See JAPS REPORT on page 10

Death Rate Drop Gives U. S. 2,8000,000 Extra Army Age Men

NEW YORK — (AP) — The statistical bulletin of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. says the United States has 2,800,000 men of fighting age who would not be alive today but for the drop in our national death rate which has taken place since 1900.

Under the 1900 death rate that number would have died by now, says the bulletin. This addition to America's military powers is a tribute to two things — improvement in medical care and sanitation, and in food.

Furthermore, says the bulletin, the 2,800,000 are the absolute minimum, for this number does not allow for the children who would not have been born because many in this great host should not have been alive to reproduce. Sons of the 2,800,000 men already are in the draft ages.

The bulletin also declares that the American people have been unnecessarily disturbed over reports that 45 per cent of our young men are physically unfit. That, the bulletin asserts, is entirely unfounded. That figure was based on the rigid standards of selection used while we were still at peace.

It adds that when our young men are properly conditioned they will be found superior in stamina and endurance to the forces of our enemies.

Note To Readers

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