

# AMMUNITION TRUCK BLOWS UP, 4 DIE

*May Drive On Japan From Australian, Indian Bases*

## JAPS CRACK DEFENSES OF BANDOENG

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| <p><b>Hint Battle Of Java May Have Come To Crisis</b></p> <p><b>Official Radio Shuts Down</b></p> | <p><b>'Death Or Victory' Fight Being Waged By Gen. MacArthur</b></p> <p><b>Odds for Defeat Heavily Against Chances of U. S. Army To Win</b></p> <p>By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER<br/>WASHINGTON—(AP)—Military quarters here today</p> | <p><b>Plan Allied Offensive In London, Washington</b></p> <p><b>Organization for Strategy Made</b></p> |  | <p><b>Hundreds Hurt In Explosion At Smithfield</b></p> <p><b>Wreck Sets Carrier on Fire, Earth-Rocking Blast Felt Over Eastern NC</b></p> |
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**By ROGER D. GREENE**

Sociated Press War Editor

A hint that the seven-day battle of Java may have reached a supreme crisis came late today when the official Java radio announced: "We are shutting down now. Good-bye till better times. Long live the Queen."

The dramatic broadcast followed thirteen-hour-old dispatches from Bandung. Allied military headquarters—Jawa, reporting that Japanese troops were storming at the gates of Bandung and already broken through the city's northern defenses.

The official Java radio station located at Bandung, and its closing off may have meant that news out-fought by the Japanese in every engagement to date.

Eventually, perhaps MacArthur may have to withdraw his forces to Corregidor Island, the other fort guarding Manila Bay. There they should be able to hold out for some weeks.

Dutch quarters in London said they hoped hear further news of climactic struggle from small secret transmitting stations in the city of Java, just strong enough to keep the Allies posted.

MELBOURNE, Australia.—(AP)—A United Nations offensive against Japan from Australian and Indian bases is being planned in Washington and London, information reaching the Australian Government at Canberra said today.

The Commonwealth Government has been informed, these reports said, that the United Nations High Command is planning to assemble its maximum strength in the Southwest Pacific at the earliest possible moment for such an offensive.

(Heavy striking forces of American troops and material are already being sent to Australia.) Walter Farr, correspondent of the London Daily Mail, reported in a dispatch to his newspaper from somewhere at sea.)

KATO YASUAKI, Japanese planes again hammered Ford Morley and Lae, on the southern and northeastern coasts of New Guinea about 20 miles apart.

SMITHFIELD.—(AP)—Four persons were known to have been killed and approximately 100 others were reported injured near here early today in the delayed explosion of a fire-rendered ammunition-laden truck, the thunderous roar of which was heard over a radius of 50 miles in Eastern North Carolina.

Dr. E. N. Booker, Johnston County coroner, who first said at least five persons were injured fatally, said there was some question whether three bodies at first believed to be in a leveled hotel were there as he initially announced. Several persons were missing from the hotel and it was possible, he explained, that the number of dead might be seven or more.

He said that ruins of the hotel were too hot to be sure but that investigators would investigate thoroughly later today.

SELMA SHAKEN

A hotel, a full station and a tavern were leveled and windows at Selma, a town about two miles away, were shattered. The cement highway under the truck was ripped up.

PEARL HARBOR HERO COMES HOME—Sergeant Joseph L. ... who defied the approach of Japanese planes which bombed Pearl Harbor and told a superior who ignored the warning, got a big hug and kiss from his mother at Ft. A. M. ... station at Marietta, Pa., upon arrival there en route to his home at Williamsport, Pa.

NEW BITTER FIGHT ON PAGE 2

**British Tanks Roar Into Burma Action**

A Tokyo radio broadcast asserted that collapse of the entire defense of Java, the last United Nations citadel north of Australia, was regarded as "the matter of a few days."

Tokyo said Japanese invasion units were battling within three miles of Bandung's northern approaches and that the city was within a few kilometers of encircling.

**Try To Break Up Jap Effort To Drive Ahead North of Pegu**

The enemy has a long supply line, which we can cut,

**Anglo-U. S. Front In Europe Urged**

Russian Strategists Think Germany Can Be Beaten by Fall

LONDON.—(AP)—Russian strategists again are urg-

ped wide and deep for a distance of 20 feet.

Dr. Booker said that two of the victims were in an automobile which he said failed to observe Highway Patrol warnings to halt.

Dr. Booker said that George Stroup, 28, of Gastonia and Coan near New Holston, Mo., he was home, he took a chance on passing the burning explosive truck near Smithfield—and lost.

**BLAST VICTIM WAS GEORGE STROUP, 28, OF GASTONIA (above). He was commander of a CCC camp near New Holston, Mo. When he took a chance on passing the burning explosive truck near Smithfield—and lost.**

**Ston Radio**

**PRY BLOW**—Bandung, the chief arsenal of the United Nations defenders, would be perhaps, a strategic blow to the Allied cause of Java.

Dispatches from Bandung said the invaders broke through the northern defenses Friday, capturing the famous Krakatau volcano in the first line of the city's mountain defenses.

**LONDON—(AP)—**Camouflaged tanks which recently rumbled upon the Burmese battlefields are fighting to smash a Japanese attempt to push westward over a highway and railroad north of Pegu, a military commentator indicated today.

He said the Japanese were attempting their westward shove in the area 40 miles north of Rangoon, where he said that the British tanks were trying to clear them up.

"Don't imagine we have masses of armor forces in Burma," he said.

Australian officials proceeded with plans for calling all men up to the age of 60 for war duty, whether as combatants or in labor camps.

**NEED FOR WORKERS**

Once Germanys disposed of the Axis splinter forces, these persons say, Japan will become considerably less formidable, mainly because the Japanese and British naval forces will be free for concerted action in the Pacific.

ing swift creation of an Anglo-American front in Europe in the belief that it can smash Germany by Autumn and thus force the evacuation of the Pacific war.

Well-placed Americans and British in London are supporting the campaign.

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**U.S. Convoys In Pacific**

The decision to take the chance of proceeding on their way," the cruiser said, "and just as they got almost close with the truck it exploded with a terrible noise which fell in Rocky Mount, 50 miles away, toward the beach."

**Manufacture**

**No More for Civilian**

**WASHINGTON—(AP)—**The War Production Board today ordered manufacture of radios and

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| <h2 style="text-align: center;">Appreciation Flops:</h2> <h1 style="text-align: center;">United States Nears Break With The Double-Dealing Men Of Vichy</h1> <p><small>By JOSEPH H. BAIRD<br/>Copyright, 1942, Overseas News</small></p> <p>... is true. It may well be that the best service Washington could do would be to say, "do nothing." Not to continue to aid France's traitors.</p> |  | <p>Premier Aloi Furanghi had left the Iranian capital after informing Parliament that "the crisis surpasses my power . . . it is impossible for me to accept the premiership and form a cabinet."</p> <p>Furanghi became premier last August after Iran signed a truce with British and Russian forces but was unable to complete his government and stepped down. He was asked, then, to form a new cabinet.</p> |  | <p>"America Goes To War" is truly a great book," writes J. B. B. of Charlotte</p> <p>were developing in the Southwest Pacific, but declared that see U. S. COUNCIL on page 3</p> |  | <p>It such as the foundation for a new herd. He lost his stock of 35 cattle in a fire.</p> <p>Warmer this afternoon and tonight.</p>  |  |
|  |  | <h2 style="text-align: center;">Reynolds Advocates Full-Scale Attack On Japan From Aleutians</h2> <p><small>WASHINGTON — Use of the Aleutian Islands as a base for military operations against Japan offered an ideal jumping off place for an assault on Japan which might result in the capture of the islands.</small></p>   |  | <p>Nations would gather sufficient forces in the Antipodes to launch attacks on Japan from the south.</p>  |  | <p>Today's Temp.: H. 62, L. 40<br/>Sunset Today . . . 7:24<br/>Sunrise Tomorrow . . 7:45<br/><small>Additional U. S. Weather Bureau forecasts on page 3</small></p>  |  |

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