

THE CHARLOTTE NEWS

Final

GERMANY BAY OF BENGAL CORREGIDOR GULF BOMBERS BLAST JAP BOATS

Air Raiders Kept High By Fire of Fort Guns

Report Sinking of Freight Ships

WASHINGTON (AP)—The War Department reported today that Corregidor's gunners sank a number of small Japanese boats and kept enemy air raiders so high over the Philippine Island fortress that bombings in a series of new raids caused only minor damage.

A communique said the Japanese boats were in the harbor of the fishing village of Marivales at the mouth of the abandoned Batuan Peninsula. The boats were set afire in addition to those sunk.

Meanwhile, communication between Corregidor and Cebu was cut off for the past 48 hours so Lieutenant-General Jonathan M. Wainwright was unable to report on the efforts to beat off an invasion of the Central Philippine Island, more than 200 miles south of Corregidor.

The Liberty was torpedoed twice by an enemy submarine Jan. 11 when two miles from the Batuan Peninsula shore. The vessel was beached and 50 men were rescued by Dutch planes, some being flown to Sorobaja.

The Meigs was sunk Feb. 10 in a bombing raid on the harbor of Darwin, Australia. The master, Captain F. S. Link, died later of wounds. One crew member was killed and eight were wounded.

Rowland Pruette Dies Of Injuries In Auto Accident

Funeral Tuesday For Solicitor

Superior Court Solicitor Rowland Pruette of Wadesboro, son of the Rev. Dr. and Mrs. L. R. Pruette of Charlotte, died early this morning in a Wadesboro hospital following chest injuries in an automobile wreck at Lenoirville last week.

He had the reputation of being one of the state's best Superior Court solicitors and took part in many celebrated cases. He was completing his eighth year as solicitor and was unopposed for four more years.

He went to Wadesboro as a member of the first Baptist Church in Wadesboro at 4 P. M. tomorrow.

Mr. Pruette was born in Charlotte 52 years ago and attended the Charlotte public schools, later going to Mars Hill College and finishing in law at Wake Forest College. He went from college to Wadesboro for the practice of law, and with the exception of his service as second lieutenant in World War I, had been there continuously since.

WIDELY KNOWN SOLICITOR

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Axis Raided By British Bombers

Strike at Italy And Germany

LONDON.—(AP)—Britain's far-ranging bombers pounded at Axis arsenals in Germany and Italy early today in a bombing offensive designed to smash the equipment of many German divisions before it is able to leave the factories.

Swarms of RAF fighters swept across the Channel during the afternoon in such numbers that the incessant drumming of the motors reminded coastal residents of the busiest days of the Battle for Britain in the autumn of 1940.

The new formations were flying toward France and they passed others returning from offensive sweeps. Some planes were so high they were hidden by lofty, foamy clouds.

The Royal Arsenal at Turin, where much of Italy's munitions is produced, was reported to have been one of the main targets of the raid against Berlin's Axis partner.

An authoritative source said the attack on Italy was carried out without the loss of a single bomber on the 1,500-mile round trip.

The Krupp Works at Essen, Germany, was one of the objectives in the 4th raid on the Ruhr and its subsidiary attacks on docks at Le Havre, Genoa, France, and airbases in France and the Low Countries cost the RAF ten bombers and one fighter.



HEROINES OF BATAAN — Here are two of the heroines of Bataan — First Lieut. Josephine Nesbit, chief nurse (left), for Kansas City, Mo., and Second Lieut. Mary Moultrie, nurse. They're shown on Bataan, wearing uniforms regulation for their duty on the peninsula. Lieut. Nesbit is known to have been among the nurses who safely crossed to Corregidor under fire during the last hours of resistance on Bataan.

Allied Air Drive Gains Momentum

Japanese Bases in Australian Area Wrecked by Attacks

MELBOURNE, Australia.—(AP)—The mounting Allied air offensive gathered momentum during the week-end in a series of fierce assaults which left a trail of destruction today in Japanese bases stretching from Timor to the Solomon Islands along a vast 2,400-mile arc north of this continent.

Principal target of the offensive was Rabaul, New Guinea, which was raked yesterday for the fourth successive day. The raiders also struck again yesterday at the Japanese airbase at Keapang, off-bombardment capital of Dutch Timor.

A communique announcing the new raid on Rabaul said a large Japanese ship in the harbor was seriously damaged by a direct hit from a heavy bomb and by two near misses.

At Least 3 Battleships In Sea Force

Five Aircraft Carriers Operating As Major Battle Shapes Up

LONDON.—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill disclosed today that the Japanese are operating in the Bay of Bengal with powerful naval forces headed by at least three battleships and five aircraft carriers and including heavy and light cruisers and several flotillas of destroyers.

Reporting to Commons on the loss of the aircraft carrier Hermes and the cruisers Dorsetshire and Cornwall, whose sinking by Japanese bombers in the Bay of Bengal was announced last week, the Premier said the Japanese battleships there included at least one of the modernized, sixteen-inch gun Nagato type of 32,720 tons.

Rule Upon Libel Suit

Circuit Court Decision Upheld

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—The Supreme Court upheld today a circuit-court decision which was interpreted by opposing litigants to hold that under New York law a published charge that a public official holds anti-Semitic views is libelous.

The High Tribunal divided 4 to 4, with Justice Jackson not participating. Under such circumstances, the action of the courts appealed from is affirmed.

Justice Brandeis dissented, a suit brought by Representative Sweeney, Democrat, Ohio, against the Schenectady Co., Y. S. Union Publishing Company, charging that he had been libeled by statements in a newspaper in the Schenectady, N. Y., area that he was opposing the appointment of Emerich Burs Freed as Federal District Judge at Cleveland on the ground that Freed was a Jew.

Now the case goes back to the Northern New York state circuit court to determine whether, under principles enunciated by the Federal circuit court in New York, the newspaper had libeled Sweeney.

Japs Move Nearer Burma Oil Fields

Column Reported Advancing Up Main Road 70 Miles North of Prome

NEW DELHI, India.—(AP)—A Burma front communique said today a Japanese column was reported to be advancing up the main road north of Prome.

Sinhapura is on the east bank of the Irrawaddy River about 55 miles below the vital Yenangyaung oil fields of Upper Burma.

There were no details of any action as the invaders, advancing inland from captured Rangoon, moved still closer to the coveted oil resources.

CHINESE STAND GROUND

On the opposite end of the United Nations line, where the Chinese hold the eastern sector, reports yesterday said Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek's stalwart fighters were standing their ground along the Sittang River, 30 miles north of Toungoo, in the face of a Japanese attack supported by planes and concentrated artillery fire.

Hopkins Sees Red Envoy

Talks With Malsky In London

LONDON.—(AP)—Henry L. Hopkins, assistant secretary of the State Department, was reported to have seen the Russian ambassador, Ivan Malsky, at the United States Embassy in London.

Hopkins will confer tonight with Prime Minister Churchill and probably present the results of the interview with Malsky.

General George C. Marshall, United States Army Chief of Staff, was at the Embassy frequently during the day, but did not participate in the talks with the Russian diplomat.

Reynolds Ruling Made

Decide in Estate's Favor in Tax Case

WASHINGTON.—(AP)—The Supreme Court partially overruled today the Government's contention that it was entitled to collect approximately \$100,000,000 in taxes on the estate left by twenty-year-old Zachary Smith Reynolds, North Carolina tobacco heir, when he died in 1932.

Justice Black delivered the opinion, which held that Reynolds' net social interest in trust property aggregating approximately \$20,000,000 did not justify its inclusion in his gross estate.

U. S. Soldier Weds Irish Girl

BELFAST, Northern Ireland.—(AP)—Private Herbert Cooke of Cleveland braved possible U. S. Army displeasure today to marry an eighteen-year-old Colleen in a church locked against those who dissent.

He was the first AEP man to wed and his bride was Miss Theodosia Smith, when her father, captain of the Presbyterian Church, found the doors locked and had to return home.

Army authorities do not require enlisted men to obtain specific permission to marry, but say it is "improbable" Private Cooke actually obtained only the permission of his bride and her parents.

Russia Warns Japan To Live Up To All Articles Of Agreement

By EDDY GILMORE

KUBIYSHEV, Russia.—(AP)—Striking at what was called "blabbering" in Japanese "military and fascist cliques" about war in the North, Soviet Russia today observed the first anniversary of the signing of the Japanese-Russian neutrality pact by warning Tokyo that their blabbering about war and invasion in the North might damage first of all and most of all Japan herself.

Army Unit Of Alcohol Rejects Is Advocated

ROSTON.—(AP)—Protest-

ers over the 4-F Selective Service classifications given to so-called "chronic alcoholics," have been told in President Roosevelt's Executive Order that they could be rejected to fight just as much as the college boy or business man.

In a letter to Maj.-Gen. Louis H. Wessley, director of Selective Service, Judge Frankland W. L. Miles, chairman of the board, wrote that many of the alcoholics had boasted of setting drunk on the way to the front.

Germany Seek To Feel Out Depth Of Soviet Front With Air Raids

KUBIYSHEV, Russia.—(AP)—The German Air Force accelerated its activity today in support of light counter-attacks in infantry and tanks as the Germans sought to feel out the depth of the Soviet front.

Warm and slushy weather—probably the warmest thus far this year—prevailed in the fighting areas.

Weather

Slightly warmer tonight.

Today's Temp: H: 63; L: 45. Sunrise Today 7:18. Sunrise Tomorrow 6:52.

Note to Readers

Dispatches from Berlin, Moscow, London and other cities are published by the News with the intention that they be read for their own sake and not for the purpose of being used as news.