

SMASH AT GERMS OFFENSIVE;

Take Jap Sea Claims Might Force Battle

Believe Nippon Admirals May Try To Save Face After Coral Sea Defeat

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER

WASHINGTON. (AP)—American military experts, intrigued by Tokyo's solemn but hollow claims of a resounding Coral Sea victory, concluded today that such bombast could only drive the Japanese admirals to a grand-scale assault on the approaches to Australia in an effort to save face.

These claims have become so prevalent in the last few days that it was said that the Japanese navy was being compelled to try to make good on them soon by a new battle in tremendous force. Hence the Japanese believe another big battle is in the making—a battle which the enemy might throw at the United States.

LL STRONG

If the Japanese admirals do not attempt to follow up the first success toward a large-scale assault, one is that the enemy's fleet strength has not been vitally impaired by the Coral Sea engagement, disastrous as it was.

If Admiral Yamamoto wants to cut the supply line to Australia, therefore, he would have to call up reinforcements and try again in the same theater, in some other area leading to the continent or else along the vast island chain guarding the supply line.

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Allies Extend Air Raids Into Indies

Jap Ship Sunk and 2 Others Damaged at Former Dutch Isle, Amboina

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS, Australia. (AP)—A ship sunk suddenly at the western flank of the Japanese position bases north of Australia, Allied bombers last night sank a 3,000-ton Japanese ship at the former Dutch island Amboina and damaged two others, General MacArthur's headquarters announced today.

Draft Head As Witness

Says Army Will Reach Out for Men

WASHINGTON. (AP)—Major General W. B. Hershby, Selective Service director, told the House Military Affairs committee today it soon might be necessary to induct into the Army single men and married men with dependent families if this can be accomplished, he indicated. Selective Service, he indicated, has no intention of disrupting the general provisions of the law to provide for compulsory military service of part of service men's families in order to keep them dependent, with the Government implementing the allotment.

None of the three services represented in the committee today.

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Vessel Survives Torpedoes And Shells And Is Safe In Gulf Port

NEW ORLEANS. (AP)—A sturdy board side at 2:35 A. M. Central War Time. Although the ship began taking water it proceeded at ten knots trying to escape the attack which was not sighted.

Bulkheads were closed to regain an even keel. A general alarm sounded and an SOS was sounded.

At 2:35 A. M. another torpedo hit the ship on the starboard, followed immediately by a third torpedo hit.

With the ship listing badly, the captain ordered it beached and the crew left aboard a lifeboat, a possible lifeline. A few minutes later the submarine surfaced and began shelling the vessel with two guns. Between seventeen and twenty shells were fired, and the ship showed at least nine direct hits, but did not sink.

Captain Sheldon said the submarine struck the ship on the star-

Immobilize Warships of French at Martinique

American Naval Officials Help

WASHINGTON. (AP)—French warships at Martinique are being immobilized, it was authoritatively disclosed today.

The immobilization is being carried out in co-operation between French and American naval and other officials on the spot.

Other important details of a comprehensive solution of the problem of French possessions in the Caribbean are still being discussed, it was said.

NOT LOOKING TO VICHY

Responsible sources emphasized that these negotiations are being carried on directly with Admiral Georges Robert, French High Commissioner on Martinique, and that the United States is not in any sense dealing with or looking to the Vichy Government in this matter.

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Large Jap Ship Sunk

Tokyo Reports Attack By Submarine

TOKYO. (AP)—A large Japanese merchant vessel has been sunk in the eastern part of the South China Sea by an enemy submarine, according to a statement issued by the Japanese navy today.

The War and Navy ministries said the merchant ship was sunk after a submarine surfaced and fired several torpedoes at it.

Say Nazis Fear Home Trouble

MOSCOW. (AP)—Tass, official Soviet news agency, said today that according to German reports from the German frontier German troops were being sent to the Soviet Union to fight in the East.



GOAL OF HITLER'S CRIMEAN DRIVE — Map highlights oil-rich Caucasus region of Russia, believed the ultimate goal of Germany's preliminary attacks in the Crimea eastward on the Kerch Peninsula.

British About To Escape Into India

Tired Remnants of Forces in Burma Nearing Assam Border

NEW DELHI. (AP)—The remnants of Britain's roughly handled defenders of Burma were reported near the gateway of escape over India's Assam border, their withdrawal along the Chindwin River unimpeded by Japanese forces which were sharply checked four days ago near Kalewa.

Income Tax 'Fee' Urged

All Who File Would Have To Pay Sum

WASHINGTON. (AP)—Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau today advocated a minimum tax of "several dollars" on every one who files an income tax return.

Under existing law, millions of people whose personal exemptions and other deductions exceed their income pay no tax at all, even though they have to file returns.

U. S. PILOTS STRIKE

The RAF was giving welcome aid to the tired British troops by the Japanese for forcing up the Chindwin had been bombed.

U. S. PILOTS STRIKE

Dyestuffs Plot Is Charged

WASHINGTON. (AP)—The Justice Department announced today that a Federal Grand Jury at Trenton, N. J., had indicted eight corporations and twenty of their officials on a charge of world-wide conspiracy to monopolize the manufacture and sale of dyestuffs.

Supply Ship Set Afire by British

LONDON. (AP)—British planes attacking enemy shipping off the Norwegian coast last night set a medium-sized supply ship afire and left it burning heavily, near Alesund, the Air Ministry announced today.

Use Soldier's Franking Privilege To Duff Clients

WORCESTER, Mass. (AP)—Postmaster John T. Sheehan said today he discovered two Worcester professors who had been called to armed service, had been duffing clients at Uncle Sam's expense by the use of soldiers' free mail privileges.

Soviets Admit Giving Ground In Kerch Area

But the Ukraine Drive Is Real Thing And Not Diversionary Action

By HENRY C. CASSIDY

MOSCOW. (AP)—The Red Army reported today that it was smashing at the very gates of Kharkov, important diversionary action to lessen German pressure on the Kerch Peninsula 380 miles to the south, where the Russians admitted giving some ground.

The attack on Kharkov, which the Russians said already has smashed through the first line of German defenses, and was hammering at the second, is no mere diversionary action to lessen German pressure on the Kerch but is the real thing, all Soviet accounts emphasized. Although it may have that secondary effect, it has been long and carefully prepared.

Nazis Report Kerch Action

Say Russian Forces Being Pursued

BERLIN (from German broadcast). (AP)—The German High Command said today that in the Kerch Peninsula offensive "the pursuit of the beaten enemy is being relentlessly continued while to the northward at several points on the Donets Front, our troops are relating strong enemy attacks supported by tanks."

The latest strong enemy attacks with Russian reports of breaking the Germans' first line before Kerch.

MOP UP POCKET

The Berlin commentary spoke also of Germans mopping up a pocket at Abkhaz, the Russian province of Georgia, in the Caucasus region, in a pursuit of forces which escaped encirclement in a German breakthrough through the Caucasus since last October.

"Cloudbursts had marked a few roads temporarily and turned them into mazes, but these difficulties which from men and machines demanded great and sustained efforts could not stop a little the impetuous advance of the German troops," the commentary said.

HOLD NEW LINES

While admitting a German breakthrough into Russian defenses on Kerch, the Russians said they now were holding a new line in good order and were taking a heavy toll of the attackers.

"The Red Army is keeping and strengthening the initiative," declared Red Star.

Considerable Gas Bootlegging Predicted—Dealers Get Warning

By ASSOCIATED PRESS

The third and final day of registration for Federal gasoline rationing plans was reported today that bootlegging of the scarce motor fuel could be expected.

Weather

Little change in temperature, but with showers this afternoon and tonight.

Today's Temp.: H. 70; L. 60
Sunset Today: H. 77; L. 60
Additional U. S. Weather Bureau data will be found on page 12.

Note To Readers

Dispatches from Berlin, Moscow, and other sources are published by the News with the conviction that they are of great value to the public. The News is not responsible for the accuracy of the information contained in these dispatches.