

U. S. BOMBERS HAMMER JAPS AS ATTACK ON LUZON FAILS

Fleet Scours Pacific For Japan's Navy

Grim Hunt Made in Effort To Revenge Attack at Pearl Harbor

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States Battle Fleet, wearing the scars of Pearl Harbor but in formidable fighting strength despite its losses, hunted the vastness of the Pacific today for the Japanese fleet—and vengeance.

Pearl Harbor Probe Considered

House Committee May Make Separate Inquiry Paralleling Roosevelt's

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House Naval Committee today considered the advisability of making a separate Pearl Harbor investigation, paralleling the one to be conducted by President Roosevelt.

Japs Claim Enemy Hurt

Say Bulk of American Fleet Destroyed

TOKYO—Official Radio Reported by AP—(Bywire) General Hiroki Tada, supercharging Japanese claims of successes won in the first week of the war, told the Diet today that "the bulk of the American fleet which had been in Hawaii is destroyed and the main body of the British Far Eastern Fleet is crushed."

He Remembers: Flier "Too Excited" To Shoot Down More Than 4 Jap Planes

HONOLULU—(AP)—Lieut. George Welch, 27-year-old Army flier from Wilmington, Del., told today how he shot down four Japanese planes attacking Hawaii on Dec. 7 and landed with three bullet holes in his ship, one just behind the pilot's seat.

British Push Wedge Into Axis Libyan Positions

Decisive Phase of Fight at Hand

By Associated Press. Britain's desert armies in North Africa have swept 70 miles west of Tobruk and slashed into the heart of strongly-held Axis positions in a great new battle of tanks and men, Cairo headquarters reported today, as a decisive phase in the struggle appeared under way.

Reds Say 3 Nazi Divisions Crushed

More Than 13,000 Killed or Wounded, Russian Communique Declares

MOSCOW (AP)—A special Russian communique declared today that more than three German divisions were crushed with more than 13,000 of their men killed or wounded and that huge quantities of heavy equipment were seized by the Red Army in its recapture of Klin.

Singapore Threatened

And Hong Kong May Have To Fall

LONDON (AP)—An informed source said today that Hong Kong might have to be evacuated and that a serious threat to Singapore had developed in the Pacific.

U. S. War Supplies To Still Go to Middle East

CAIRO (AP)—The United States entry into the war will not slow up the flow of American war supplies into the Middle East, said today, Eric Chen, Russian War Affairs, British-Chinese War Affairs, said today.

Send Us More Japs: "From The Halls Of Montezuma To The Shores Of Tripoli"—And Wake

WASHINGTON (AP)—United States Marines on Iwo Jima today—open to sun, wind, bomb and bullet attack—will have the "situation well in hand" today.



PEARL HARBOR REPORT—In his first press conference after a flying visit to Hawaii to personally survey damage inflicted by the Japanese air raid, Secretary of Navy Frank Knox told reporters that the loss was heavy, but that the bulk of the United States Navy is in action seeking the enemy.

Jap Transport Damaged, Four Planes Downed

Nipponese Appear Striking Hardest Blows at British Centers

U. S. Army bombers were reported slashing violently at Japan's sea-borne expeditionary force off Luzon Island in the Philippines today, seriously damaging an enemy transport, while American defense forces were credited with shooting down four Japanese fighting planes.

Await New Jap Blows

Philippines Fighters Use Lull To Prepare

MANILA (AP)—Japan's assault on the Philippine Islands started off today to an air attack at Cebu.

British Weather Bureau To Withhold No More Forecasts

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The Charlotte Weather Bureau this afternoon received orders from national headquarters which will effect immediately a drastic curtailment on the publication and furnishing of weather information while the nation is at war.

Southeastern Is Low Bidder

Submits Estimate of \$215,971 for Navy Job

CHARLOTTE, S. C.—(AP)—The Southeastern Construction Co., Charlotte, was low bidder at \$215,971 for the erection of a section base, (shore patrol, at Cokerup Island, near Beaufort, when bids were opened today at the Charleston Navy Yard.

Weather

Partly cloudy and warmer tonight and Wednesday. Today's Temp: H. 77; L. 57. Sunset Today 5:05. Sunrise Tomorrow 6:55. Additional Forecast: Partly cloudy with light rain or drizzle on Dec. 17.