

Russ Offensive Looms As Blitz Slows Down

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air losses. "A small number of casualties and fires were admitted. The central and southern fronts appeared to be the zones of greatest activity in this sixth week of the conflict. Indications that the Russians were swinging more and more to the offensive were seen in a communiqué on yesterday's fighting which reported the big German pushes toward Moscow and Kiev stopped. In addition, the red air fleet was credited with shooting down 109 German planes Saturday with a loss of 36 Russian aircraft, and coastal defense guns and the Russian Baltic fleet were said to have sent two patrol vessels and a torpedo boat to the bottom. Loss of one Russian torpedo boat was acknowledged.

Nazis Claim Progress

BERLIN, July 29.—(AP)—Bessarabia has been "completely liberated" from the Russians and the last of the red army units trapped by German drives in the Smolensk sector and in Estonia are facing destruction, the high command declared today. "A great number of prisoners and a large amount of booty will be reported within a few days as a result of this tremendous battle of destruction," it said of the Smolensk fighting.

The high command, in a communiqué from the fuhrer's headquarters, said that "the enemy's power groups which were overrun in the course of a break through the Stalin line in the direction of Smolensk now have been virtually wiped out."

"The last encirclement eastward of Smolensk is facing destruction."

West of Lake Pelpus, the communiqué said, Russian forces "encircled by units assigned to mop-up operations of Estonia also are facing destruction."

Dniester River Reached
German-allied Rumanian troops completed the conquest of Bessarabia by reaching the Dniester river estuary, and operations in the neighboring Ukraine "continue steadily," the communiqué added.

Authorized sources declared that General Ion Antonescu's Rumanian troops had captured Cetatea-Alba (Akkerman), on the Dniester mouth at the Black sea and described this as the last Bessarabian town in Russian hands. (The Russian Black sea port of Odessa, a city of 410,000 with both rail and highway connections to other key points of the Ukraine, lies less than 20 miles east of the Dniester estuary and about 25 miles northeast of Cetatea-Alba.)

The bombing of Moscow, inaugurated nine days ago, was renewed last night and the high command said strong combat units "effectively bombed armament plants, supply industries and traffic facilities" of the soviet capital.

Authorized sources said the bomber crews, concentrating on the northeastern part of the city, saw numerous fires in other sections of the metropolis.

Siam Seen as Possible Ally; Demand Made

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obviously, a reference to Japan—and they scored at Tokyo broadcasts that British forces in northern Malaya were an active threat to the Thais.

Informed Shanghai quarters were unable to confirm reports that Japan had served demands on Thailand, but observers recalled that Tokyo made similar charges of outside "threats" just before making demands for bases in southern Indo-China.

State Department Silent

In Washington, the state department silently followed the course of events, and White House supporters in the senate urged that the administration hold unwaveringly to its far east policy.

Senator Pepper (D-Fla.) declared bluntly that "now is the time to let Tokyo know whether we mean business. Tokyo, unhappily, knows no language except force."

Japan's occupation of southern Indo-China went into high gear as warships and troop transports brought garrison troops and military supplies into Camranh bay. At Hanoi it was announced officially a total of 40,000 Japanese troops would be stationed in southern Indo-China. Troops already have moved into bases at Nhatrang, 200 miles northeast of Saigon, and Tourane, 300 miles up the coast from Saigon.

Other warships were approaching Saigon to land still more Japanese, expected to take over posts dominating the east coast, the Thailand border and the upper half of the Gulf of Siam.

French and Japs Sign
In Vichy, France's Vice Premier Admiral Jean Darlan and Japanese Ambassador Sotomatsu Kato signed a protocol for the "common defense of French Indo-China," binding the two governments to military cooperation as long as circumstances demand.

Other developments in the far east crisis indicated that an explosive climax may be forthcoming soon:

1. In Shanghai, American officials reported that Japanese soldiers had been stationed outside American oil company properties at Tsingtao and Dairen, halting all business.

2. In Sydney, Army Minister Percy Spender announced that about one-quarter of Australia's military has been called up for full-time service beginning Oct. 1.

3. The London radio said an order had been issued in Cape Town, South Africa, to detain the 9,000-ton Japanese freighter Maru Maru, headed for Japan with a full cargo.

4. In San Francisco, the luxurious Japanese liner Tatuta Maru, with nearly 100 American passengers and a \$2,500,000 cargo of raw silk aboard, was reported still continuing her time-marking cruise off the Pacific coast.

By FRANK L. MARTIN, JR.
SAIGON, French Indo-China, July 29.—(AP)—The Japanese army and navy took over the French naval base of Camranh bay today, beginning in force the occupation of five garrison posts and eight air bases in southern Indo-China which may become the seat of future widespread operations in southeastern Asia.

While troops swarmed ashore from a fleet of transports and warships at Camranh bay, a smoothly clicking Japanese headquarters in Saigon sped directions for the further occupation.

Maj. Gen. Raishiro Sumita, head of the Japanese military mission, working in his shirt sleeves, walked up and down long rows of desks covered with maps, adding machines and documents, offering suggestions to clerks and the staff.

Of considerable interest among foreign circles was the disclosure that a French residence next door to the home of the British consul here had been requisitioned for the Japanese army.

Base Is Strategic
By taking possession of Camranh bay, the Japanese were in possession of a base about midway between British Singapore and Hongkong.

Occupation of Camranh followed by 24 hours the arrival of Japanese forces at two other east coast bases in southern Indo-China—Tourane and Nhatrang.

(Nhatrang is about 200 miles airline northeast of Saigon and Tourane is 300 miles in a direct line on up the Annam coast.)

Japanese and French planes roared overhead in a prelude to the landing of the main Japanese force tomorrow in Saigon. Troop ships with a warship escort were scheduled to reach Cap St. Jacques, below Saigon, tonight and to proceed up-river to Saigon tomorrow to disembark a force whose numbers still were unknown here.

Salgon will be the main gateway through which the Japanese will fan out to occupy other posts in Cochinchina and Cambodia. Garrisons will be stationed at Barla on the road to Cap St. Jacques and Mytho southwest of Saigon, while Cambodian cities to be occupied include Phnom-Penh, Siemreap and Ha Tien on the Gulf of Siam.

Well Fed

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Churchill Warns Britons Trouble May Come Soon

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nounced that Finland had broken relations with Britain, which 17 months ago was shipping her cash and war materials for her 1939-40 fight with soviet Russia.

Churchill did not say whether Finland would be regarded formally by the British as a German ally in her new war against the red army.

Defense Aid on Pacific Highway Will Be Urged

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fense road program.

Oregon, it was stated, probably will receive a federal appropriation of about two million dollars for primary roads, on which state cooperation of 25 per cent will be required, and about two and one-half million dollars for access roads, which will be built entirely at federal expense.

The access roads will lead to cantonments, mineralized areas and other sections where defense works are of important character.

Attorney Guy Cordon told the directors that it was his understanding the legislation passed by

congress last week to provide \$275,000,000 for defense routes, was only to start the program, and that additional appropriations will be authorized as the construction program gets under way. He pointed out that the legislation sent to the president for signature is only an authorization for appropriation of money, and that no specific routes are mentioned. Diligence will be required, he said, until the work is actually authorized, if the Pacific highway is to be given the benefits to which it is entitled.

No Assurances of Licenses Given Japan Says Welles

WASHINGTON, July 29.—(AP)—Sumner Welles, acting secretary of state, said today the United States had given no assurance to Japan that licenses will be issued to permit continuing trade with that country. He made this statement in explaining that clearance would be given to Japanese ships leaving American ports under present conditions.

Beef Is Taboo

Beef is prohibited in Kashmir, India, and visitors must certify in writing that they are carrying no beef in any form into the province. This Hindu-ruled mountain district bans even a cube of bouillon or can of oxtail soup.

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Stock and Bond Averages

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Compiled by Associated Press July 29.

	30	15	15	60
Tuesday	63.1	18.5	32.4	44.2
Prev. day	63.3	18.5	32.4	44.3
Month ago	59.1	16.8	31.2	41.5
Year ago	59.6	16.0	36.2	42.7
1941 high	63.9	18.5	35.5	45.0
1941 low	54.8	15.4	30.3	39.1

BONDS

	20	10	10	10
Tuesday	64.8	104.9	102.1	46.1
Prev. day	64.7	104.9	102.1	46.3
Month ago	64.2	104.9	101.5	47.4
Year ago	56.7	109.9	96.5	37.4
1941 high	66.5	105.3	102.1	48.2
1941 low	60.2	104.2	99.0	38.0