

Highway Sidings Planned as Aid To Army's Air Corps

(By Jack Sinnett)
WASHINGTON—Highway parking for war planes of every size from the little "air jeeps" to the giant four-engine bombers is in the wind for the United States. "Flight strips" they call them and the kickoff came the other day when the president signed the new defense highway bill. The measure provided more than two billion dollars for "flight strips." The bill has been booted around among various agencies, congress and the White House for nearly a year. Even in its final form, the president didn't like it and said so. That made news. What didn't make news was the little proviso for \$10,000,000 for "flight strips." The patrician of the sum caused one army official to dub it "nothing more than a strip tease." His humor struck pretty near the truth. Ten million dollars is not going to line our strategic highways with "flight strips" but it is a beginning and one which army aviation engineers see as a forerunner of the day when every important highway will have roadside parking for airplanes as common as hamburger havens.

Flight Strip Defined
The term "flight strip" almost defines itself. It is nothing more than a runway, 3,000 to 5,000 feet long and 150 feet wide, built along the principal lanes of motor travel.

The idea isn't new. At least ten years ago, it was being put forward by Lieut. Col. S. S. Hanks, of the army air corps. But like most of the innovations in combat aviation which now are being hailed as the very latest things, it was put by as a lot of expensive fol-de-rol that well could be shaved out of the defense budget of a peaceful nation.

Commercial aviation, however, did recognize the established principle of motor traffic that automobile travel grew only as good highways grew. So commercial aviation set up its auxiliary or emergency landing fields. That is mostly what the "flight strip" is, but it is something more.

Except in the most mountainous areas, there are intervals along our highways where rights-of-way could be obtained sufficiently level to construct these strips. Because of terrain, or prevailing wind directions, they would not always parallel the highways—but they would be so near by that the highway could serve as guide lines.

Easily Camouflaged
Within five to 100 miles of major army airports they would serve as perfect dispersal "ports" to which a vast air force could rapidly take refuge in case the main base was attacked or destroyed. Being no more than single strips (runways now are being made of a material that takes and holds paint) they could be easily camouflaged, with hangars and shops appearing no more than one of the million clusters of barns and farm houses that dot the country side.

Although first locations of the flight strips have not been announced, it is considered certain they will be along the northeastern seaboard and all other points near the coast believed most vulnerable to air attack.

It's just a start, but army air officials see it as the first step in solving the problem that has plagued Germany and England in their air blitzes—the inability to get enough planes in the air at one time to hold air superiority—and the inability to provide enough emergency landing fields for planes forced down by damages, weather, or exhausted fuel supply.

Son Not Killed, as First Reported; Mother Joyous

GRANTS PASS, Dec. 23.—(AP)—Happy Christmas news for Mrs. Lula J. Wright of Grants Pass took the form of word from Salem that her son, Sgt. John A. Wright, marine corps recruit, was there and alive.

She had received a telegram from the navy Sunday night, deeply regret to inform you that your son, Sergeant John A. Wright, U. S. Marine corps, was killed in action in the performance of his duty in the service of his country.

The Associated Press reported Tuesday that Wright was still at his post in Salem, and very much alive.

His mother said yesterday that he had told her his leave was canceled shortly after declaration of war, and that she had received no word of his transfer to the place he was supposedly—and erroneously—killed.

Child Dies of Burns Received at Fireplace

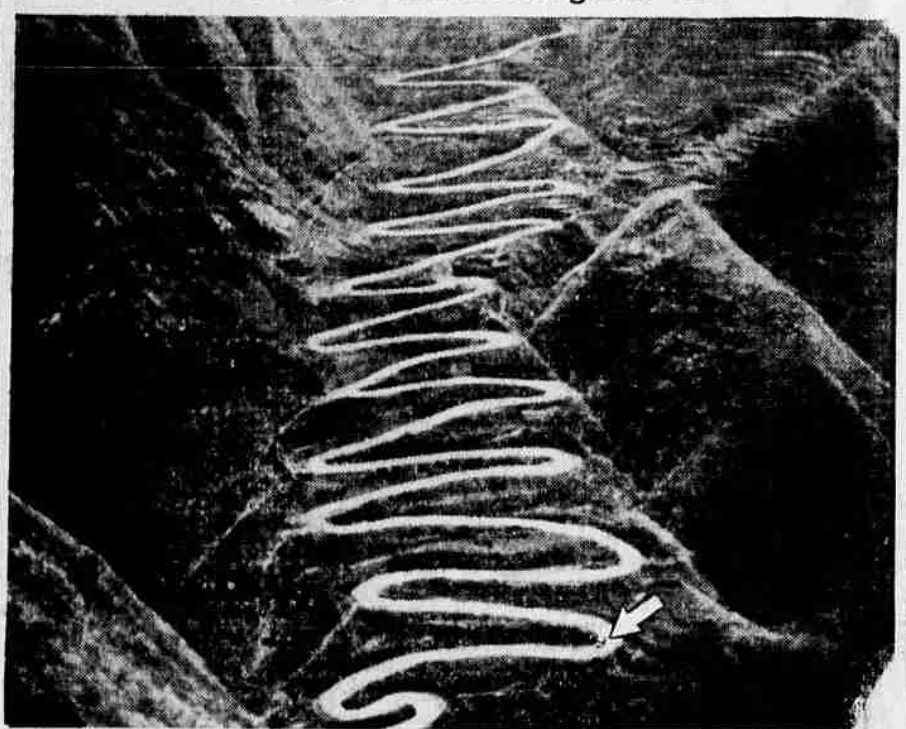
UKIAH, Calif., Dec. 23.—(AP)—Mark Dana Gray, 6-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. John Gray, Fort Bragg, died yesterday from burns received when his bathrobe caught fire as he was playing near a fireplace.

BLACKOUT paper and PLYBOARD at PAGES. (adv.)

OUR BOARDING HOUSE

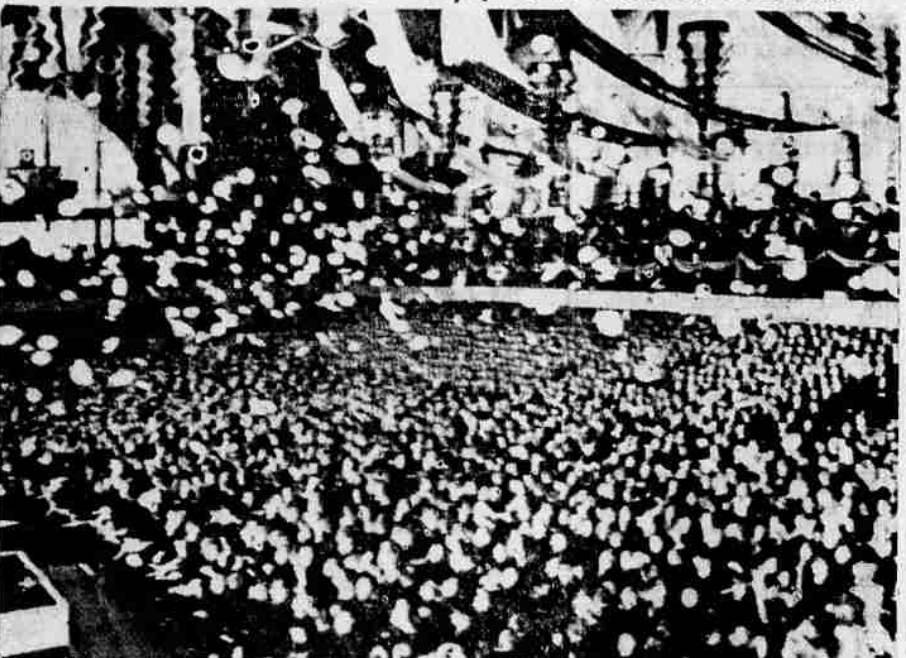


This Is the Chinese Dragon's Tail



Spectacular airview shows China's Burma Road, tail of the dragon still untwisted by invading Japan. Arrow points to truck negotiating hazardous turn.

War Ends Their School Days; U. S. Middies Graduate



The June, 1942, class at the U. S. Naval Academy has been graduated in December, 1941, because of the war. And the 647 graduates are shown throwing their caps in the air, the traditional ending of commencement exercises. They were addressed by Frank Knox, secretary of the navy.

Shipyard Worker Held as Saboteur

BOSTON, Dec. 23.—(AP)—Federal authorities today held William Patrick Collins, 42, an American-born shipyard worker, on a sabotage charge in connection with the cutting of a power cable in the Boston navy yard December 8—the day the United States declared war against Japan.

U. S. Attorney Edmund J. Brandon said the motive for the cable slashing had not been determined.

Collins pleaded guilty when arraigned yesterday before U. S. Commissioner Donovan, but Donovan ordered him to change his plea to innocent pending a hearing.

Voted Fund Far Under Sum Asked by Gov. Olson

SACRAMENTO, Calif., Dec. 23.—(AP)—The California legislature recessed its wartime special session early today after appropriating \$1,000,000 for the state emergency fund, with half that amount earmarked to finance the state guard until January 12, the date for reconvening.

Governor Culbert L. Olson's requests for \$17,500,000 for a 26,500-man state guard and nearly \$10,000,000 for the emergency fund were left in abeyance pending study by a 22-man interim committee on the state's wartime needs.

Tests show the old-type nail cut out of genuine wrought iron has greater resistance to corrosion and 72 per cent more holding qualities than steel-wire nails.

First Aid Classes Being Organized at Yoncalla

YONCALLA, Dec. 23.—Registrations are being made at the drug store for the Red Cross first aid class. Instructions will begin shortly after the first of the year. There is no charge, except for a text book and that will be small. Both men and women are urged to register. The classes will be held at night.

Friday, December 26, is the day the local Red Cross workers will pack for shipment to Roseburg all work now on hand. Women who have unfinished articles are requested to finish them and deliver them to the Christian church by 2 p. m., December 26, Mrs. Clifford Hanan, production chairman, states.

Large new FLOOR SANDER for rent at PAGES. (adv.)

Nazi Battleships Trapped by Raid, British Believe

LONDON, Dec. 23.—(AP)—A direct bomb hit on the gates of the drydock at Brest, France, in an RAF daylight raid December 18 is believed to have trapped the 26,000-ton German battleships Scharnhorst and Gneisenau in the docks and damaged them anew, the air ministry news service reported yesterday.

en during the raid also gave reason to believe, "although the confusion of smoke precludes a certainty, that a heavy bomb has fallen amidships and penetrated the deck of the Scharnhorst."

In addition, the service announced, it is "quite certain that a heavy armor-piercing bomb" fell between the stern of the Gneisenau and the side of the drydock and another similarly between the Scharnhorst and her dock.

The news service said neither battleship probably could be moved until the damaged gates are repaired. Moreover, it added, "a great number of bombs" have fallen close to them although "how much damage these have done can only be conjectured at the moment."

"Important submarine pens at Brest also were heavily bombed during the attack and received one certain and two probable hits," it reported.

"Buildings, possibly workshops, behind the submarine pen have been demolished."

particular, as an "arena of war," and the nation generally would benefit from the procedure, Downey argued, through the preservation of fuel and electric power and the reduction of after-dark accidents.

It is estimated that every meadowlark is worth \$1 a year as a destroyer of grasshoppers alone.

GASCO BRIQUETS, ALL HEAT, NO ASH at PAGES. (adv.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—(AP)—Senator Downey (D-Calif.) wants nationwide daylight saving time for the protection of public welfare and the conservation of essential resources, and he has proposed that the senate put itself on record as of the same mind.

Senator McNary (R-Ore.), however, questioned whether a simple resolution of the nature Downey introduced was in itself enough to authorize setting clocks ahead an hour in each time zone, and whether actual legislation might not be necessary.

For that reason, the senate minority leader objected to immediate consideration of Downey's resolution by which congress would "express approval" of any steps by the president or the war department, acting under wartime powers, to change the time standard.

The Californian declared that both the president and the war department desired daylight saving time. The Pacific coast in

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"We are confident in our devotion to country, in our love of freedom, in our inheritance of courage," he said. "But our strength, as the strength of all men everywhere, is of greater avail as God upholds us."

Therefore, he said, he was setting aside the first day of 1942 "as a day of prayer, of asking forgiveness for our shortcomings in the past, of consecrating ourselves to the tasks of the present, of asking God's help in days to come."

Son of Governor Sprague Is Engaged to Marry

SALEM, Dec. 23.—(AP)—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Elwood Dull of Maplewood, N. J., announced the engagement today of their daughter, Miss Mary Lou Dull, to Engin Wallace A. Sprague of Se-

attle, son of Governor and Mrs. Charles A. Sprague.

The wedding will take place next spring. Sprague is on duty with the navy in Seattle as a public relations officer.

POWELL'S FOR FISHING TACKLE 245 N. Jackson St., Roseburg

Gifts for every member of the family at modest prices. Come in and see.

Stearns and Chenoweth Oakland, Oregon

DAILY DEVOTIONS

DR. CHAS. A. EDWARDS

Two competing strains of life contend today. Two incarnations are actual in the hearts of men. Two powers meet on the battlefields of the world. Two potential kingdoms strive for the mastery. But, sound the trumpet, ring the bells. The Christmas faith is not a fading dream. The angel's song is not a dying echo. The love of God is not a spent force. God reigns and is still on the throne. The Christmas spirit is still the only road to peace at a time when so many peoples of the world are subjugated by an enemy whose purpose is to efface the name of the Christ and crush the spirit of those who would worship Him. The Christmas message provokes a heart searching by the men and women of the Christian church. The Christmas spirit alone can win for the world that peace and good will which will endure. The need of the hungry and homeless in every land should fill us all with the spirit to serve at this Christmas season. The star still shines above the smoking ruins of age old cities. Steady, serene and strong, it radiates peace amid the bursting bombs. We dream and work and pray for the time when the glory of the star shall be resplendent, making a shining pathway to the Father's kingdom where wars shall cease unto the end of day. May it speedily come. Amen.

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Wishing You A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year

Once again we arrive at the season in which we like to forget business and extend our thanks for the pleasure we have had serving you throughout the year.

Caterpillar Tractor Co. joins us in wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

DOUGLAS COUNTY

Farm Bureau Co-op Exchange

ROSEBURG, ORE.

THIS WILL BE OUR BUSIEST CHRISTMAS—

We deeply appreciate your most helpful cooperation. You are helping us to help you.

We want you to know that we are meeting this emergency with everything we've got, but in these critical times delays are bound to occur.

Our lines are carrying a tremendous volume of traffic—in the last few days they have been the busiest in Pacific Coast history. It is necessary, of course, that in all instances, our lines be readily available for telephone calls important to Defense.

Your considerate thoughtfulness in not making other than the most urgent calls is an inspiration to all of us who are earnestly endeavoring to uphold the finest traditions of telephone service.

May we also ask you to lend us a hand over the Holiday Season by not sending greetings by Long Distance.

Thank you.

THE PACIFIC TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY

New Year's Proclaimed Prayer Day by F. D. R.

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