

Heroic Defense Of Wake Island Acclaimed by Navy

HONOLULU, Dec. 29.—(AP)—Dispatches sent while death rained from sky and sea on virtually shelterless Wake Island sketched tersely today how less than 400 marines, with only four planes left, held off numerically superior Japanese for 14 days, bagging 12 aircraft and five ships before being overpowered.

"Probably no military force in American history, not even the defenders of the Alamo, ever fought against greater odds nor with greater effect in view of those odds," acclaimed the navy in summarizing the reports for the first time.

Nor did those tough marines once admit defeat.

"The issue is in doubt," read the last dispatch sent on December 22.

Attack after attack was hurled back. Beset by 200 planes during those 14 days, the little garrison, knowing there could be no reinforcements from Hawaii 2,500 miles away, loosed such deadly fire that the Japanese had to abandon low-flying assaults for a time.

Nazi Bases From Norway To France Suffer in Raid

(Continued from page 1)

munique said, included docks at Dunkerque, on the "invasion coast" of France, and airdromes in Holland.

While RAF bombers made these assaults, coastal command planes attacked enemy shipping, and the communiqué said bomb hits were scored on two vessels off the Dutch coast.

Fighter planes on night offensive patrols attacked air bases and other targets in occupied France and Holland.

RETREATING AXIS FORCES STRAFED IN NORTH AFRICA

CAIRO, Egypt, Dec. 29.—(AP)—British columns striking from the south fought the retreating main axis force in the Agadabia area yesterday and compelled at least part of the enemy to pull off to the west, the British command announced today.

The axis forces fleeing to the west lost six tanks, a communiqué said.

The RAF heavily attacked the axis troops isolated in Bardia and kept up raids on enemy motor transports on the roads westward from Agadabia, "damaging or destroying a considerable number of vehicles."

The RAF reported that "about 15 hulks of ships lie in the inner and outer harbors" of Bengasi, the Italian port and base which fell to the onrushing British last week. "The whole harbor front is battered and crumbling ruin" as a result of the RAF's raids preceding the city's fall, said the announcement.

BERLIN, Dec. 29.—(Official broadcast recorded by AP)—Nine British planes were shot down last night during raids on northern and western Germany, the German high command declared today.

A communiqué said the raids caused dead and injured among the civilian population, "particularly in Emden"—site of a big German naval base.

One British plane was shot down yesterday over German-occupied territory, the high command said.

Twelve Texas Convicts Escape; One Recaptured

HUNTSVILLE, Tex., Dec. 29.—(AP)—Twelve convicts, several of them serving long terms, escaped today from the Wynne prison farm near Huntsville by sawing bars of a large cell and sliding down sheets.

One of them, Joseph R. Tucker, was captured by an unidentified Huntsville citizen.

Tucker told Capt. R. H. Baughn of Wynne farm that he entered the man's automobile with a drawn knife but the man covered him with a pistol. The man took Tucker into his home and phoned the penitentiary.

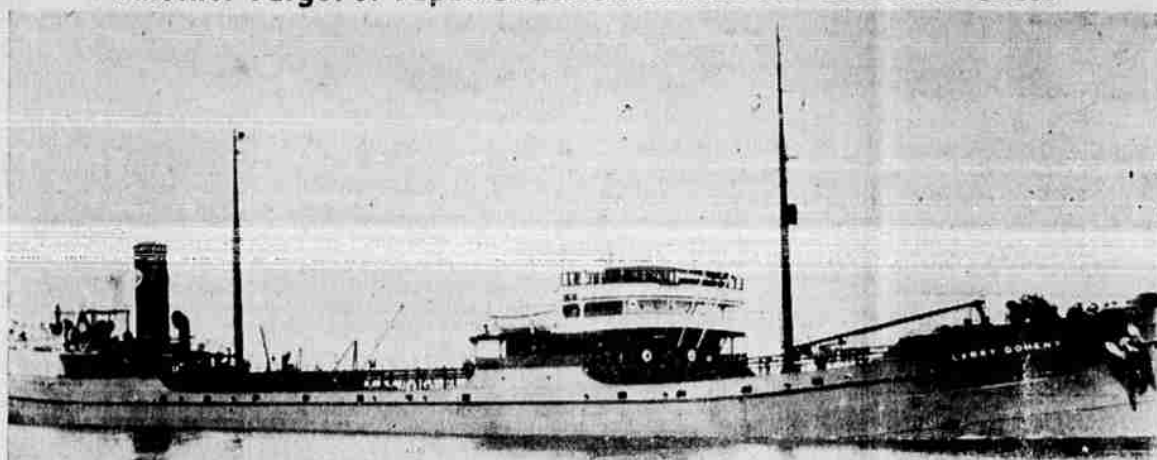
All available bloodhounds and guards from the farm and the main prison at Huntsville took up the trail.

Conviction of Defiler Of American Flag Upheld

TRENTON, N. J., Dec. 29.—(AP)—The New Jersey supreme court affirmed today the conviction of Helga Schlueter, 20, German-born alien of Lakewood, on a charge of defiling the American flag.

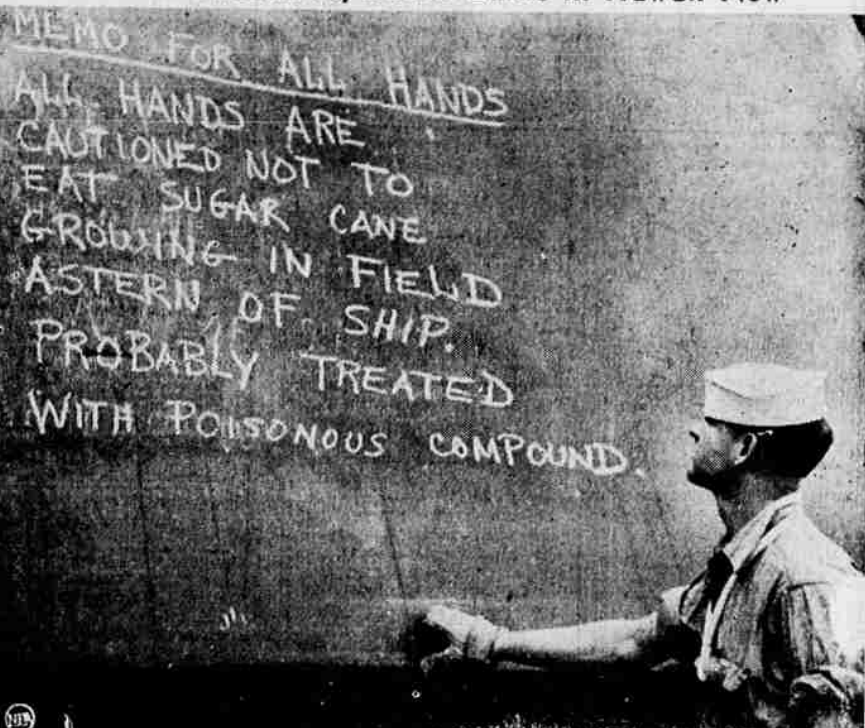
Miss Schlueter, now in custody of the federal bureau of investigation, was sentenced to one to two years in a women's reformatory after her conviction by an ocean county jury. She was charged with tearing up and throwing to the ground, while a firemen's parade was in progress on June 29, 1940, in Lakewood, a small American flag that was attached to her motorcycle.

Another Target of Japan Undersea's Raider Off California Coast



Here's the tanker Larry Doherty, reported shelled by a Japanese submarine off the California coast between Point Arguello and Estero Bay.

Even in Sweetness, Death Lurks in Hawaii Now



This warning sign, painted on the turret of a battleship in Hawaii, tells its own grim story of fifth column work and sabotage in the once peaceful islands. U. S. Navy photo, passed by censor.

Vanderbilt Girl Weds Pat DiCicco, Son of Gardener

SANTA BARBARA, Calif., Dec. 29.—(AP)—A Vanderbilt married the son of an Italian immigrant in the 165-year-old Santa Barbara mission yesterday, and movie stars and socialites were among the wedding guests.

Today the 17-year-old former Gloria Laura Morgan Vanderbilt—granddaughter of the Cornelius Vanderbilt who founded one of the premier family fortunes in America—was honeymooning with 32-year-old Pasquale (Pat) Di Cicco. Later they will settle down in Beverly Hills, where Di Cicco is a film actor's agent.

Di Cicco's father, arriving from Italy 55 years ago, prospered as a Long Island truck gardener. Pat went to Hollywood and, in 1932, married actress Thelma Todd. She divorced him in 1934. More than a year later she was found dead in her automobile in a garage.

The new Mrs. Di Cicco will inherit \$4,000,000—a trust fund from her grandfather—when she becomes 21. Meanwhile she has an allowance of \$750 a month.

The Roman Catholic ceremony was at high noon. Actor Bruce Cabot was best man, and Errol Flynn was an usher. The maid of honor and four bridesmaids were debutante friends of Gloria.

Leads All

Missouri is the only state in the nation with two federal reserve banks within its borders. The banks are at St. Louis and Kansas City, the state's two largest cities.

Stock and Bond Averages

Compiled by Associated Press Dec. 29.

	30	15	15	60
Ind's RR's Ut's St's				
Monday	52.4	13.7	24.9	35.8
Prev. day	52.4	13.6	24.8	35.7
Month ago	55.8	15.4	28.4	38.7
Year ago	62.5	16.1	34.7	43.8
1941 high	63.9	19.0	35.5	45.0
1941 low	51.7	13.4	24.5	35.4

	20	10	10	10
RR's Ind's Ut's St's				
Monday	59.3	102.9	99.6	41.0
Prev. day	58.5	103.1	99.4	41.3
Month ago	62.2	104.9	101.7	45.6
Year ago	61.1	105.4	100.0	37.9
1941 high	66.5	105.4	102.2	51.4
1941 low	58.3	103.1	98.9	38.0

Feat of Alvin York Partly Duplicated

WITH THE U. S. ARMY IN CENTRAL LUZON, Dec. 29.—(AP)—A U. S. cavalry colonel told today how one of his lieutenants "overpowered" a detachment of 50 Japanese soldiers by simply "shouting real loud."

"Thinking they were Filipino troops," said the colonel, "my lieutenant walked within 50 yards of their grog. Suddenly they waved two small Rising Sun flags."

"He hollered and made signals to tell them they should wait, then went back and got his machine gun and, when he returned..."

The colonel went no further.

Use of Civilian Trucks If Needed By Army Planned

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 29.—(AP)—A civilian motor transportation plan, designed to speed movement of military supplies and equipment, has been adopted for the eight states comprising the army's western theater of operations.

These states are California, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon.

Under the new set-up, the army can call upon a single central authority to provide necessary non-military transport facilities. The operations will be under direction of John L. Rogers of Washington, D. C., an interstate commerce commissioner named as coordinator of civilian motor transportation for the western defense command.

Under Rogers' supervision, motor transportation men will hold meetings within a few days at Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Phoenix and Salt Lake City. Dispatching offices will be opened immediately.

The coordinator's duties will be to keep trucks in the west moving in such a way that emergency shipments on a major scale can be handled with the least delay, but without unnecessary upsets in normal routine movements of commercial motor freight.

Hitler Doom Tops Pact Of Stalin and Eden

(Continued from page 1)

which is pushing back the Germans, the Moscow radio declared today.

With new advances on each

flank of the Moscow front, the Russians are threatening the Nazi bulge at Mzhalsk, 57 miles west of Moscow—the pivot of the German army which three weeks ago menaced Moscow.

Red army dispatches at the same time told of the route of raw German youths of 17 and 18 years who made up most of an entire German division. These reports said the youths dropped their arms and fled at the first Russian assault in the Kalinin sector, 95 miles northwest of Moscow.

The soviet information bureau said 332 towns and villages had been recaptured in the area during the past 10 days. Later the bureau declared more inhabited localities were occupied but did not give the total.

The morning communiqué also told of new successes on the Kalinin front northwest of Moscow, where Russian troops were said to have launched a sudden attack which captured the headquarters of a German infantry regiment.

GLOOM INCREASING IN NAZI-GRIPPED EUROPE

ISTANBUL, Dec. 27.—(Delayed)—(AP)—George H. Earle, who has been United States minister to Bulgaria, arrived today from Sofia and described a deepening gloom settling upon Nazi-dominated Europe.

He said Rumanian and Hungarian hospitals were choked with German wounded from eastern front hospital trains and asserted the German people and soldiers alike were sickened by Adolf Hitler's assumption of personal command of the German army.

"German fortunes definitely are declining," he said, but added that "the death throes may be unprecedentedly violent."

Earle arrived with his entire legation staff after being hustled mysteriously out of Sofia after Bulgaria's declaration of war up on the United States. Members of his staff said they thought the Bulgars had gotten wind of a Nazi plot against them to create an incident.

Bulgar authorities who took them at the last minute to little-used stations on the capital's outskirts instead of the central station explained that they feared a Russian bombing to make it appear that Bulgaria had violated diplomatic protection, they said. The staff consensus, however, was that the Bulgars really feared a German plot.

All non-diplomatic American residents in Bulgaria—about 20—were compelled by Nazi-controlled Bulgarian police to remain behind, the staff members said, presumably to serve as hostages for Germans living in the United States.

Roosevelt Pledges to Philippines Full Aid

(Continued from page 1)

the chief executive felt that the islands might be lost temporarily. Early replied, "I shouldn't think so, no."

As Mr. Roosevelt's message was made public, Dornel already was anticipating victory. The official Japanese news agency reported that the Mikado's expeditionary forces on Luzon were concentrating their main efforts on capturing Manila "before New Year's."

The Dornel announcement occasioned no great surprise here, for it is well known that the Japanese seek to have their victories fall on important festivals—and New Year's is Japan's greatest holiday.

It was noted that the Japanese were able to time their conquest of Hongkong to coincide with Christmas—the day which marks the anniversary of the present emperor's accession.

Jap Trickery Obvious

The navy department announcement, which was made public a short time after President Roosevelt's message last night, carried an encouraging ring and aroused all kinds of conjecture.

"The Japanese government," the announcement noted, "is circulating rumors for the obvious purpose of persuading the United States to disclose the location and intentions of the American Pacific fleet. It is obvious that these rumors are intended for and directed at the Philippine Islands."

"The Philippines may rest assured that while the United States navy will not be tricked

into disclosing vital information, the fleet is not idle."

Fleet Acting Cautiously

This was the first official statement on the fleet since the week after the Pearl harbor attack of Dec. 7. Then Navy Secretary Knox disclosed that the main body of the fleet with its battleships, cruisers, aircraft carriers and submarines was "at sea seeking contact with the enemy."

At first glance, the navy announcement last night was interpreted in some sources as a hint that it still might be possible to strike a telling blow which would put an entirely new aspect on the situation in the Philippines. They noted, in passing, that Japan's widely scattered invasion thrusts in the south Pacific required substantial naval support, forcing a reduction in the strength of the main enemy fleet.

There was no disposition here to believe that the U. S. Pacific fleet intended to play into the enemy's hands and enter the South China sea, which is rimmed thickly with Japanese air and sea bases. However, the navy's announcement seemed to hold out the possibility of action soon.

Covers Lot of Ground

The British Empire, its protectorates and mandates, includes 105 states and countries, covering an area of 13,539,000 square miles, or one-fourth of the world's inhabitable land area. More than one-fourth of the world's inhabitants, or 504,218,000 persons, are in the Empire.

Churches in the War

During the World War, 2626 churches were destroyed. All but 50 of these were repaired or rebuilt before the start of World War II.

Civilians' Gasoline Use Faces Big Reduction

(Continued from page 1)

mands such action. Its details have not been revealed.

The petroleum coordination office has become particularly alert to the transportation of oil since the United States entered the war, in view of a possibility a substantial portion of the great fleet of oil tankers now supplying the coastal areas might be needed to fuel the forces fighting in the Pacific.

Petroleum supply in the United States which possesses great resources of oil, is principally a matter of transportation.

Goes to Portland—H. O. Pargeter, of this city, has left for Portland to attend to defense bond business.

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