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Roseburg News-Review

HARDER JOB—

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VIEW

ROSEBURG, OREGON, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1942.

VOL. XXX NO. 155 OF THE EVENING NEWS

NAZI WARSHIPS ESCAPE

RESISTANCE OF SINGAPORE UNBROKEN

Battle Rages 2 Miles From City's Heart

Defenders Making Last Stand Under Terrific Air And Artillery Attacks

(By the Associated Press) A terse, dramatic message from Lieut. Gen. Percival disclosed that British defenders of Singapore still were putting up "stout resistance against great odds" today as Japan's siege armies pressed within two miles of the city's heart.

A Singapore communique timed 5 p. m. (3 a. m. PWT) indicated the union jack continued to wave over the island metropolis. Japanese shock troops were now fighting in the city's suburbs.

Even the Tokyo radio spoke of "firm resistance" at Singapore. Domei, official Japanese news agency, conceded that the invaders were still two miles from downtown Singapore, but while the British fought a delaying action it was apparent that the net was steadily drawing tighter.

Japs Claims Premature In the 14-day-old siege, latest dispatches said Japan's invasion hordes were pressing violent air and artillery attacks on the last toehold of British defense, with heavy fighting raging about the MacRitchie reservoir in the center of the island.

"Shelling has been frequent on forward areas and on Singapore town," a British communique said, belying a Rome radio broadcast.

(Continued on page 6)

In the Day's News

BY FRANK JENKINS

TJUANA—the town with a bad, wicked past. Because its past was bad and wicked is about the only reason one goes there now.

It works the same way with people. The old rake who was a hellion in his younger days is pointed out as one of the town sights whereas the upright but never very thrilling citizen goes on his virtuous way unnoticed.

In its lusty B. C. (before Cardenas) days, Tijuana boasted the longest bar in the world. How long this bar may have been this writer doesn't know, never having measured it, but it was long enough, goodness knows, and before it swayed and tottered and whooped and yipped an uproarious crowd.

Now a large part of the rough board structure that housed it is given over to merchandise stalls and on much of the remainder appear signs reading: "This section of the bar closed." Before the small section still open for business a few bored customers sip mild Mexican beer and down at the far end a Mexican male trio, furnishing their own accompaniment on guitars, sings "South of the Border" in a discouraged manner.

(You'd be discouraged too, if you got your pay in nickels, few and far between. People who are cold sober don't shower down folding money on strolling musicians.)

TJUANA ekes out a more or less precarious existence these days as a tariff-free merchandise mart. It has some lovely stores, at that, selling some really handsome foreign goods.

(Continued on page 2)

Five Japanese Warships, at Least 41 Planes Destroyed by U. S. Navy's Raid On Gilbert and Marshall Island Bases

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—(AP)—The navy's surprise raids on Japanese bases in the Marshall and Gilbert islands proved today to have inflicted even heavier punishment on the enemy than first reports hinted.

The batteries and bombers of Pacific fleet units got these results Jan. 31 in a lightning offensive sweep: They sunk five Japanese warships—one a 17,000-ton converted aircraft carrier.

They sent eleven Japanese auxiliary vessels to the bottom. They destroyed at least 41 enemy warplanes, either in aerial dogfights or on the ground.

And they plastered destruction all over the important naval and air bases which the Japanese had prepared to threaten the flank of the U. S. supply route to Australia and the southwest Pacific.

Registration Of Douglas Women To Start Feb. 16

Registration of women of Douglas county in connection with the state-wide mobilization of women, will start here Monday, Feb. 16, it was announced today by Mrs. Christina Miceili, chairman for Douglas county.

Mrs. Miceili announced that the work in Roseburg will be conducted by city wards. Mrs. Oliver Johnson is in charge of registration in Ward No. 1; Mrs. Flossie Virden, Ward No. 2; Mrs. G. M. Krell, Ward No. 3, and Mrs. Velle Broadway, Ward No. 4.

Women will be questioned regarding vocational experience, skills and potential abilities. The survey will include women from 18 years of age upward.

The registration is for the purpose of determining the potential ability of women to fill places in defense industries and in various occupations vacated by men accepted into military forces.

At the present time, it is stated, the mobilization board is not in a position to offer employment to any Oregon women. However, after data is accumulated, tabulated and filed, the statistics will be available for the placement of women in work where they may add to the national defense effort.

At the same time there will be available a vast reservoir of substitute labor for use when large numbers of men are drawn into military service and heavy defense industries.

Already plans are being made by large numbers of young, unmarried women to form crews for farm labor, it is reported, and the mobilization will serve to organize this and other activities on a planned and efficient basis.

Roseburg Included in Alien Evacuation Areas

SALEM, Feb. 13.—(AP)—The U. S. employment service announced today it would help find jobs, new homes and other assistance to the enemy aliens who are being evacuated from the 30 prohibited areas in Oregon.

The aliens must be moved by midnight Sunday from certain areas in and around Salem, Portland, Eugene, Corvallis, Roseburg, Grants Pass, Medford, Umatilla, Pendleton, LaGrande and the Bonneville dam area.

Roosevelt Signs Bill to Lend China Half Billion

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—(AP)—A bill appropriating \$500,000,000 for aid to China was signed today by President Roosevelt.

Attack Hits Picket Line Of Welders

TACOMA, Feb. 13.—(AP)—A group of between 40 and 50 pickets of welders seeking an independent union at the big Seattle-Tacoma shipyards was beaten, manhandled, picketed signs torn from them and then chased over the tideflats in a clash with AFL welders coming off duty at 7 a. m. today.

About a dozen policemen on duty at the yards were unable to stop the fighting. Some pickets took refuge in nearby coal cars and freight cars and some were chased blocks. One of the AFL welders, arrested and placed in a patrol wagon, was freed by his fellow-workmen.

The fighting started when the shift left the yards about 10 minutes after the day shifts of hundreds of men went through the picket lines to work.

Shouts of "clear out, make an honest living," and "never come back" were hurled at the pickets. Leader Among Victims Charles L. Brinkerhoff, leader of the welders, was knocked to the ground and beaten. He suffered various body bruises and a bad cut above an eye. A fellow picket, in trying to protect Brinkerhoff, was knocked down on top of Brinkerhoff and kicked in the head.

Brinkerhoff was taken home for medical aid but later was able to return to his office. The picketing welders, assembling 200 or 300 feet outside the yards gates at 6:30 a. m. erected a big banner and carried numerous signs. The signs said: "Don't pay tribute to the AFL," "We want to work for our country but not for the AFL," and "Pay dues to Uncle Sam and not to the AFL."

800 Said Still Out American Federation of Labor (Continued on page 6)

Give MacArthur Top Command, Is Willkie's Urge

BOSTON, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Promotion of General Douglas MacArthur to a post as supreme commander of the nation's entire armed forces, responsible only to the president, is advocated by Wendell Willkie as a move to wipe out "deadwood and red tape" in the army and navy.

A throng of 1,500 diners rose to their feet, cheering, as the 1940 G. O. P. presidential nominee presented the Philippine hero's name last night while addressing the Middlesex Republican club.

"Keep bureaucratic and political hands off him," said Willkie. "Give him responsibility and the power of coordinating all the armed forces of the nation to their most effective use."

"Then," he said, "the people of the United States will have reason to hope that skill, not bungling and confusion, directs their efforts."

Willkie declared it was obvious "that there is unnecessary waste effort, lack of mutual confidence and central 'direction' among our various fighting forces."

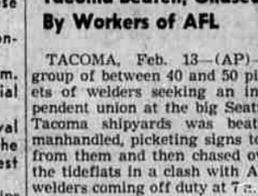
He quoted unidentified air force men as saying they had "come up against stone walls of prejudice and ignorance in the war department," that "the man who offers constructive criticism risks court martial," and that "the navy still believes that an air bomber cannot sink a battleship."

Radio Plants Get Conversion Order

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—(AP)—The war production board announced today it had ordered the \$200,000,000 radio manufacturing industry to convert its entire facilities to arms production within the next four months.

Heads Far East Allied Fleets

Head of the allied naval forces in the Far East is a Netherlands naval chief, Ambr. C. E. L. Helfrich, above, of the Royal Netherlands navy. He replaces American Admiral Thomas C. Hart, who, at his own request, was relieved because of poor health. Helfrich is 55 years old, a native of Java, and a graduate of the naval college of Den Helder, the Netherlands.



Defense Plan Frills Hit By Sen. Norris

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Senator Norris of Nebraska proposed today that the senate take immediate steps to eliminate "frills" from the civilian defense effort and to repeal congressional pension legislation—two points of controversy he said which were undermining the faith of the American people in their government in a critical time.

Norris, who is the dean of congress by virtue of his 29 years in the senate and 10 years in the house, said he was amazed at the public indignation which had been aroused by the controversy over the employment of entertainers to direct certain activities of the office for civilian defense.

Likewise, he said he seldom had received such violent and sustained protests as had been occasioned by congress' action in voting to open government pension rolls to its members. Norris, who voted against such retirement payments, said he never would accept a pension from the government.

Public Faith Shaken. "These two things have gone a long way to destroy the faith of the American people in their government," Norris told reporters. "There never was a time when we needed unity more, but the people are angry and they are beginning to lose faith in the executive and legislative branches of the government."

Civil Air Patrol Here Asks Further Enrollments

All Douglas county residents who have had flying experience are asked to register immediately for service in the Civil Air Patrol, according to Walt Edmonds, recently appointed to the position of group commander. Although all private planes in this area are grounded at the present time by order of the Second Interceptor command, it is expected that orders soon will be given for the release of planes attached to the air patrol, Mr. Edmonds states. It is desired to have the patrol completely organized before flight programs are started.

Applications for enlistment already have been received from Lawrence Womack, Carol Carnes, Edgar Slack, Francis Garner, Stewart Cooper, James Bartley, Ralph Clark, Clyde Hammond, Dr. Charles B. Wade, Leslie Cummings, James Roberts, Ronald Loffer, Thelma Carter, Louise Virden, Fred Kuck, Helen Gorell, Helen Blodgett, Mary Blodgett and Margaret Ambler.

At least 12 pilots are needed for the patrol, as well as the services of a large number of persons to serve in various clerical, mechanical and service jobs. As soon as the patrol has reached enlistment strength, squadron commanders will be named and final organization completed, Commander Edmonds reports.

Persons interested may obtain application blanks at the office of the Roseburg chamber of commerce.

Reedsport Bridge Guard Found Dead Of Bullet Wound

The body of Samuel Fred Wilson, 27, employed as a guard at the Southern Pacific railroad bridge at Reedsport, was found last night about 8 o'clock under the north end of the bridge, according to a report by Coroner H. C. Stearns. Wilson apparently died from a self-inflicted bullet wound in the head, the coroner stated.

Two Battleships, Cruiser Dash From France Through Channel In Defiance of Blockade Guns

BRITISH LOSE 42 PLANES IN FUTILE ATTEMPT TO DESTROY FLEEING CRAFT, WHICH APPARENTLY REACHED SAFETY AT HELGOLAND BASE; FEAT CREATES STORM OF CENSURE.

LONDON, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Three of Germany's mightiest warships, in daring defiance of Britain's air and sea power, have made a sensational escape from their French drydock prison, racing to freedom through the English channel under the fire of British planes, ships and shore guns.

It was a gamble that risked freedom for the 26,000-ton battleships Scharnhorst and Gneisenau and the 10,000-ton cruiser Prinz Eugen, to rove the seas again as lethal raiders of Britain's commerce, against their loss as the price of failure.

And the British ruefully acknowledged this Black Friday that, so far at least, the Germans had engineered a shrewd and skillful coup under the muzzles of Britain's home defenders.

The German battleships raced through the narrow strait of Dover at 28 to 30 knots, their top speed, an authoritative source said today. Later this was lowered to 10 to 20 knots, fast enough to bring them to Helgoland before noon today.

This authority said no British surface ships were lost, thus contradicting the Berlin communique's claim that one British destroyer was sunk and another set afire. However, 42 British planes were knocked out of the sky.

He said the action was completely over and in all probability the three big German ships were safely at their destination.

From Brest to Helgoland is approximately 700 miles. Apparently the ships had negotiated nearly half this distance when they first were engaged at 11 a. m. yesterday. For five hours planes were in constant action over the enemy armada.

Planes, Storm Aid Nazis. It was from the sky that the German warships' greatest protection came, not only from concealing snow and fog, but perhaps even more, from swarms of Nazi fighter planes, shuttling out in relays from the French coast to keep protection constantly over them.

Britons' dismay that their rule of home waters could be so daringly and successfully challenged was voiced swiftly in demands for explanations which may cause new difficulties for Prime Minister Churchill's government on top of the bad news from the Pacific and Mediterranean.

The first word of the German warships' dash came from two spotters on reconnaissance. They eluded 12 Messerschmitts to race home and spread the alarm. Quickly, a flight of torpedo

(Continued on page 6)

Jap Planes Downed Fighting Own Men

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Destruction of two Japanese dive bombers by American anti-aircraft guns during increasing fighting in the Philippines was reported today by the war department.

The dive bombers, actively supporting aggressive enemy patrol action, mistakenly bombed and machine gunned their own infantry, with heavy casualties, a communique said.

Planned Aerial Hunt for Walbert Plane Cancelled

Sheriff Cliff Thornton reported today he had been advised by Leo G. Devaney, state director of aeronautics, that it has been necessary to cancel plans for an aerial search for Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Walbert, Medford residents, who disappeared Nov. 29, 1940, while on a flight from Medford to Portland. The sheriff recently submitted information to Devaney which renewed interest in the case. Thornton said he was advised that the army had refused consent for a flight of civilian planes within the defense area.

Devaney informed the sheriff, the latter said, that he has written relatives of the missing couple, suggesting that a ground search be instituted in the Eden ridge area on the divide between Cow creek and the Rogue river.

Oregon Will Register 75,000 in Next Draft

SALEM, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Approximately 75,000 men will be registered for selective service in Oregon during the three days beginning tomorrow, Colonel Elmer V. Wooton, state selective service director, estimated today.

There will be 12,000 men registered in the 20 and 21 year-old age groups, while the other 63,000 will be in the 36-44 age group.

Men in the 22-36 age group already are registered.

The official registration day is next Monday, but local draft boards also may register men on Saturday and Sunday. The registration places are determined by local boards.

Red Drive Sweeps To Polish Border

(By the Associated Press) Russia's triumphant armies reached white Russia today, striking into the German-held republic bordering old Poland.

Soviet front-line detachments said that Russian ski troops, dashing across heavy snow, had penetrated German lines into white Russia.

The locale of the penetration was not given, but Russian forces sweeping down from the Valdai hills northwest of Moscow were known to have reached Toropets, about 65 miles from the white Russian border, more than two weeks ago.

White Russia lies west of Smolensk, key German base on the Dnieper river 230 miles west of Moscow.

The great soviet breakthrough might easily jeopardize the whole German north flank around Leningrad.

West Coast Ouster of Enemy Aliens Urged

WASHINGTON, Feb. 13.—(AP)—The Pacific coast congressional committee recommended to the government today the immediate evacuation of all persons of Japanese lineage and all others, aliens and citizens alike, from strategic areas along the west coast. If their presence was deemed dangerous or inimical to the defense of the United States,

Hal Turpin Signs 1942 Contract With Seattle

SEATTLE, Feb. 13.—(AP)—Hal Turpin, the Pacific coast league's leading pitcher, has signed for the 1942 season with the Seattle baseball club, the club management announced last night.

The Yoncalia, Ore., farmer had previously rejected the Rainiers' offers and demanded better terms.

Bullet Fells Youth in Lincoln "Murder" Play

MOLSON, Wash., 13.—(AP)—The gun used in the re-enactment of Lincoln's assassination in a high school play here yesterday was loaded and Ralph Sterling, 17, who played the part of Lincoln, is near death in a hospital from a gunshot wound in the abdomen.

The assassin fired the gun, supposedly loaded only with blanks, and young Sterling crumpled to the stage as parents and students looked on.

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