

MAJOR SEA BATTLE OFF SOLOMONS NEAR

Our Job Is to Save Dollars Buy War Bonds Every Pay Day

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Rival Fleets Skirmishing, Knox Advises

Japanese Reports of Combat Seen as Trick To Gain Information

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3—(AP)—A major sea battle involving what may be the largest United States naval force yet to fight the Japanese in the Pacific was indicated today in a report from Secretary Knox of preliminary skirmishes with an enemy fleet off the Solomon Islands.

The Japanese fleet steamed toward the southeast Solomons last week apparently in a new effort to regain those important south Pacific islands.

Thus far, the secretary of the navy told a press conference, the fighting has been a "process of feeling out on both sides."

Knox described as incorrect any assumption in a navy communique last night that a major engagement already is under way. In that communique the navy reported, "the increased activity on the part of the Japanese indicated a major effort to regain control of the entire Solomons area."

The communique, Knox said, might better have told of the increased activity and added "this could be an indication" of an enemy effort to regain the area.

"It is not true," Knox said, "that a great big fight is going on. There are a lot of preliminary dispositions and preliminary moves. But there is no really pitched battle as yet."

He asserted that the Japanese, in making reports of a sea battle in the Solomons area, were "on a fishing expedition," and, replying to inquiries about the extent of the fighting, cited the communique and declared, "you'll have to be satisfied with that."

Hard Fight Still Ahead
Knox added that in the Solomons area generally, "there is a long, tough, hard fight ahead of us."

Of Guadalcanal itself, with its all-important Henderson airfield, Knox said that "we're in complete possession and control; we completely dominate the Guadalcanal area."

He displayed on a map the battle areas on Guadalcanal, saying that United States forces hold two per cent of the island's area and the Japanese one-half of one per cent—the only parts of the island involved in the ground fighting.

Told that some disappointment had been expressed in Australia that he did not extend his tour of the Pacific to include a visit there, Knox replied, "I was away long enough as it was." He was away from Washington for approximately three weeks, two weeks of which time was spent touring American posts in the south Pacific.

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STALINGRAD SIEGE ENDS WITH LAST REMNANT OF HIS ARMY MOPPED UP; COLOGNE HAMMERED ANEW BY RAF

Hitler Force Of 500,000 Vanquished

Stalin Congratulates Warriors of Russia on Top Triumph of War

MOSCOW, Feb. 3—(AP)—Premier Stalin congratulated the red army today for liquidation of the last of Adolf Hitler's troops at Stalingrad, and soviet shock units, flushed with this greatest victory of the war over Germany, plunged ahead on all fronts.

The soviet information bureau announced last yesterday that the 162-day siege of Stalingrad was ended.

More than 500,000 of the cream of axis soldiery were reported to have been slain or captured at that Volga Verdun since the Russian winter offensive was launched Nov. 19—275,000 killed and 228,650 imprisoned.

Seasoned red army divisions were freed to reinforce the offensives from the north Caucasus to Kursk.

(The German radio too told its people that the Stalingrad campaign was over but said that the Russians lost more than 300,000 men to hold the city.)

Russian newspapers said that among 91,000 prisoners taken since Jan. 10 were more than 2,500 officers.

The soviet squeeze upon other German strongholds continued.

The Germans were still counter attacking in some sectors, but the Russians declared they were smashing every such enemy effort.

Soviet planes bombed the air dome of Voroshilovgrad, the Donets river industrial center last reported only 10 miles from

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In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

On the tenth anniversary of the Nazi rise to power, Goering, who had once told the German people no enemy bomb would ever fall on German soil, gets up on his feet in Berlin to make a speech.

Almost as if the bombers had been poised above, waiting with fingers on triggers for the signal provided by his opening words, British bombs begin to fall ON THE HALL IN WHICH HE SPEAKS, causing Goering and his hearers to scuffle for the bomb collars.

It is a dramatic incident. Perhaps one of the most dramatic in the history of the world. It has even its humorous aspects.

But don't laugh. The quality of the humor involved is too GRIM.

Goering's speech is starkly revealing. It strips the mask from the recent puzzling turn in German propaganda. Before our very eyes, it takes the Nazi cloak apart and shows us how it ticks.

Picture this man Goering in your mind for what he REALLY IS at this moment.

He is a wholesale murderer, with the blood of millions dripping from his hands. He is hated by every living being in the world outside the circle of his own blood-stained intimates.

For him and his crew, IF THEY LOSE, there can be no mercy ANYWHERE ON EARTH.

(Continued on page 2)

Americans Capture Sened in Thrust To Prevent Junction of Axis Forces

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, Feb. 3—(AP)—An American combat force captured Sened yesterday and has dug in a mile east of the town on the rail line to Maknassy and the Tunisian east coast, it was announced today.

Their wedge there, if developed, might seriously harass the coastal junction of axis forces.

It is along the Gabes-Sfax rail line just west of Maknassy, which is only 33 miles from the coastal road which the axis must hold if Marshal Rommel is to join General Von Arnim in a solid axis stand.

The Americans captured a number of German prisoners and tanks at Sened.

Today's communique made no further reference to Sened that would modify the earlier announcement of its capture.

The war bulletin, however, that two days of attack on strong enemy positions at Faid pass, north of Maknassy, had been unsuccessful.

A spokesman said the action had been broken off temporarily after American armored forces failed to recapture the pass in a fierce attack.

He said the Germans were strongly entrenched on heights dominating the westward approaches to the pass, which they captured over the week end in a thrust through French defenses.

"The German artillery probably outmanned our own," the spokesman commented.

Planes Blast Sfax.
Meanwhile United States fliers smashed at the supply port of

Sfax, thwarting Rommel's escape corridor along the gulf of Gabes; destroyed seven German planes in a sweep across the Mediterranean between Tunisia and Sicily and attacked air fields and munitions dumps.

Fires visible for 30 miles were set at Sfax, the flames leaping up from burning buildings and planes.

"Our attacks on Faid February 1 and 2 were unsuccessful," an allied headquarters communique said.

Allied planes based in Libya and on Malta reported to have continued in cooperation with Tunisia-based squadrons, the aerial whipsawing of axis targets across the Mediterranean narrows.

A Cairo communique said shipping was bombed off the Tunisian coast and a German bomber was shot down over a Sicilian air-drome Monday night.

An Italian communique said allied raiders caused some damage at Crotona, Italy, "but were harassed by accurate fire from anti-aircraft batteries."

Randolph Paul, general counsel of the treasury, told of the study under questioning by Chairman Doughton. He emphasized that no conclusion had been reached.

Earlier, Paul had asserted that outright forgiveness of 1942 income taxes, as proposed in the Ruml pay-as-you-go plan, would set off an inflation spiral that might bring widespread demands for wage increases. He expressed favor for the treasury proposal for a withholding tax of 19 per cent on income at the source.

The treasury plan, Paul said, would provide a safeguard against inflation and would contribute to stabilization of war-time wages.

Though Paul did not elaborate on the idea of moving 1942 taxes to 1941 bases and rates, some committee members said they assumed that under such a plan there would be a doubling up in taxes for some tax payers. They said they thought taxpayers would have to pay their 1942 taxes, at the lower rates, at the same time that deductions were being made to apply against 1943 taxes next year.

Discussing what would likely be the procedure if the change in tax bases was made, Paul emphasized that all taxpayers would have to make returns March 15 if they are liable under current law. Any overpayment, he said, would be credited to the taxpayer on his 1943 income liability.

Reversion of 1942 Taxes to Basis of 1941 Considered

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3—(AP)—The treasury disclosed today it had given serious consideration, without reaching a definite conclusion, to reverting 1942 income taxes to 1941 rates and exemptions as a possible expedient to put taxpayers on a pay-as-you-go basis.

Such a plan, if adopted, would relieve taxpayers with incomes of less than \$16,000—and there are many millions of them—from something like half of the tax liability they now face March 15 on 1942 incomes at rates increased last year.

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Squeezing Rommel



Once more Nazi Marshal Erwin Rommel and other axis forces in Tunisia are "in the middle." Rommel's thin coastal retreat line into northeastern Tunisia was narrowed further by U. S. ground units, which reached Maknassy, only 33 miles from the axis-held road from Gabes. At the same time, the heaviest American bomber formation yet assembled in north Africa struck Sfax in a devastating four-wave attack.

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2-Ton Bombs, Incendiaries Ravage City

British Admit Loss of 5 Bombers in Assault Boosting Prior Havoc

LONDON, Feb. 3—(AP)—A heavy force of RAF bombers last night attacked Cologne, Rhine-land industrial center, dropping 100 two-ton block-buster bombs on an average of one every 12 seconds or less and scattering thousands of incendiaries in the exploding ruins.

It was the 112th raid on the city which last May was the first German center to feel the weight of a 1,000-plane raid in a single night. The principal targets include the factories which turn out diesel engines and batteries for submarines, the Humboldt Deutz Motor works, and the Mauter arms plant.

The foray was the first against Cologne since last Oct. 15 and the entire load of explosives was dropped in less than 20 minutes.

Five bombers were missing after the raid, an authoritative British announcement said, indicating that a flight of 100 of the RAF's biggest planes made the foray.

"Since the 1000-bomber raid on May 30-31 last year, in which 250 factories were more or less seriously damaged, great efforts have been made to repair as many of these as possible," the statement said.

"Repair work at Cologne has

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Bend Short of Wood; Astoria Lacks Fish

BEND, Ore., Feb. 3—(AP)—Wood dealers estimated today that more than 500 families are in urgent need of fuel and said the situation is becoming more critical daily.

Increased population and inability of dealers to travel into snow-bound forests to replenish stocks were blamed for the shortage.

Paul Brookings of the dealers said the city's only coal company has been without supplies for a week and but two or three wood dealers have any fuel left.

ASTORIA, Ore., Feb. 3—(AP)—If there are fish on the coast, they are not in butcher shops.

Meat counters were almost bare here yesterday and a few smelt were the only fish offered for sale.

The same situation was reported at Seaside.

Canned Foods Rationing to Begin Mar. 1

Vegetables, Fruit, Soup Involved; Home-Canned, Fresh Foods Exempt

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3—(AP)—The office of price administration today reduced the next coffee ration from one pound every six weeks to one pound every six weeks.

Stamp No. 25, the next coffee stamp in war ration book No. 1, becomes valid on February 8, and will be good for the purchase of one pound of coffee through midnight, March 21.

Stamp 28, valid since January 4, expires at midnight February 7. OPA said reduced coffee inventories in the hands of wholesalers and retailers made necessary the reduction in the next ration.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3—(AP)—The rationing of canned foods will begin March 1, when rationing starts, no canned fruits or vegetables will be sold.

From that time until March 1, when rationing starts, no canned fruits or vegetables will be sold.

With the armed forces and lend-lease taking, in some categories, half of the canned goods put up, the government has ordered rationing to assure everyone a fair share.

Fresh fruits and vegetables will not be rationed, and one of the goals of the program will be to compel people to do more real cooking and less can-opening.

Home canning also will be encouraged because such goods will not be counted against ration coupons.

Rationing will be by points, 48 points per person in the month of March, regardless of age or occupation. Because there still will be so many unrationed foods—especially fresh fruits and vegetables—

(Continued on page 6.)

Lost Plane With 8 Men Aboard Still Sought

BOISE, Idaho, Feb. 3—(AP)—A problem related to food rationing—the general cost of living—was today presented at the White House, where CIO President Philip Murray and AFL President William Green complained to President Roosevelt that wages are being held stationary while living costs soar.

They asked that the war labor board's wage stabilization policy be amended to permit higher wage boosts, that all civilian goods be held under price ceilings and that all essential civilian commodities be rationed equitably.

Mr. Roosevelt, they reported, showed a lively interest.

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Legislature Puts O. K. On Thirty Bills

Two Measures Dealing With Liquor Traffic Face Adverse Reports

By PAUL W. HARVEY, JR., SALEM, Ore., Feb. 3—(AP)—The Oregon legislature had its biggest day of the 24-day-old session today, with 30 bills being approved in either house.

The house passed and sent to the senate a bill to permit quarterly payment of state income taxes, instead of annually or semi-annually as now provided. The bill would become law on signature by the governor, while the similar bill passed by the senate yesterday would become effective with next year's collections.

The senate sent to the house a bill to compel women to serve as jurors, and sent to the governor the bill extending the state housing authority law two years to Dec. 31, 1945.

Bills passed by the house and sent to the senate led the public utilities commissioner give temporary trucking permits to persons who haul scrap metal, increase the salary of the secretary of the state board of engineering examiners from \$1200 to \$3000 a year, reduce the minimum age for applicants for chauffeurs' licenses from 18 to 16 years, prohibit aliens from practicing law, and give the state board of health the county courts' powers to regulate private mental hospitals.

The senate passed and sent to the house bills to fix the standard unit of sawdust used for fuel at 200 cubic feet, permit county funds in government securities, and to repeal the limit of 10 rounds in boxing contests.

A bill to permit losers in gambling games to collect triple damages was defeated 24 to 6 by the senate. Double damages now are permitted.

Sen. Dorothy Lee, Portland, in

(Continued on page 6.)

Mrs. C. W. Lawson Dies After Extended Illness

Mrs. C. W. (Bessie) Lawson, 55, died in Sacred Heart hospital, Eugene, late Tuesday, following an illness of five months.

Born in Gilliam county, Oregon, October 11, 1887, she came to Douglas county with her parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. James Morgan, while still a small child and spent her early life in the Lookingglass community. Following her marriage to C. W. Lawson, she resided in the Brockway district until about 20 years ago, when the family moved into Roseburg, residing here continuously since that time.

Surviving are her husband; two sons, Morgan Lawson, Roseburg, and Private Kenneth P. Lawson, serving overseas with the U. S. army. She also leaves one grandson, Mrs. Lawson was a niece of D. H. Morgan of Winston.

Services will be conducted by the Rev. C. A. Edwards at the Douglas Funeral home at 2 p. m. Thursday and will be concluded at the family burial plot in the Lookingglass cemetery.

Labor Leaders Request Higher Wage Boosts

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