

# ENTIRE JAPANESE CONVOY OF 22 SHIPS ANNIHILATED IN BISMARCK SEA BATTLE

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# HAMBURG STRAFED IN DAILY RAF BLOW

## Raid Answers Nazis' Swoop On London

British Report Loss of 10 Planes; New Foray on Germany Begun Today

LONDON, March 4.—(AP)—United States Flying Fortresses attacked the dock area of Rotterdam, The Netherlands, and switching yards at Hamm, Germany, in daylight today, it was announced. Hamm lies on the Berlin-Cologne rail line about 50 miles east of the Rhine. Fortresses from one station whence the attack on Rotterdam was launched returned without loss of a single ship and suffered only negligible damage. Fliers said they encountered only short, weak attacks from a handful of German fighters.

LONDON, March 4.—(AP)—Royal air force made a heavy attack on Hamburg last night in the eighth successive night attack on Germany or German occupied areas in Europe, it was announced officially today in the wake of two German raids on London. Other targets in western Germany also were hit by the strong RAF force and ten of the bombers failed to return, it was announced.

The attack on Hamburg, heavily battered since the beginning of the war, followed a large scale assault Monday night on

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## In the Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

Exciting news on the day this is written:

A 14-ship Jap convoy is moving under cover of an "advancing weather front" from Jap-held New Britain toward our positions at Lae, in New Guinea.

Our planes are waiting to pounce on the Jap ships the moment they emerge from the protecting screen of storm clouds.

This trick of moving with a concealing storm has been used frequently by our own navy. Now the Japs are using it against us. What it amounts to is finding a storm that is going your way and getting into it and going along.

We have an airfield at Wau, near Lae, from which land-based planes can operate.

The advantage of having a base-by airfield is obvious. Planes can empty their guns and unload their bombs and then dash back for more with little loss of time. When operating from a distance, it TAKES MORE PLANES.

As these words are written, the Jap ships are still shrouded in the storm and our planes are still waiting for them to emerge. Flaming action may start at any moment.

Navy Secretary Knox, asking for extension (by congress) of lend-lease for another year, says in Washington:

"We'll UTTERLY DESTROY the Jap fleet before the war is over."

He adds: "When her fleet is annihilated, we'll probably impose upon Japan the condition that she shall never have another. She has shown that

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# House Favors Another Sales Tax Referendum

## RHS Students Join Air Reserves



Photo by Clark's Studio, News-Review Engraving. The four Roseburg high school seniors pictured above, from left, Craig Dishman, Charles Clark, James Davison and Harold Caoy, have been enlisted in the army air forces reserve. All are members of the graduating class. They have passed physical examinations and have taken the soldier's oath, but will be permitted to complete their high school courses before being called for training.

## McNutt Clarifies Order on Drafting Of Family Men

WASHINGTON, March 4.—(AP)—Correcting an earlier statement, Chairman McNutt of the war manpower commission today said local draft boards are still under orders not to draft men with dependent children until they receive authorization from national selective service headquarters.

McNutt said Monday he knew of no such restriction on the local boards and declared "quite a number" of fathers of children were being taken.

In a clarifying statement issued today, McNutt said the only men with children now being inducted are those whose dependency was acquired after Dec. 8, 1941, or at a time when draft selection was imminent.

"Those registrants having wives and children, or children only, with whom they maintain a bona fide home, and who were married before Dec. 8, 1941, and at a time when selection was not imminent, may not be inducted through selective service until there is a direct authorization by national headquarters," McNutt's statement said.

The regulations have been designed, McNutt said, "to protect the bona fide family relationship as long as possible" to the extent that it is practicable to do this and still meet the requirements of the armed services for 10,800,000 men by this year and also supply the manpower needs of war industries.

However, after April 1 men who work in any of the "non-deferrable" occupations listed last month will have 30 days to transfer to essential jobs or to register with the U. S. employment service before being placed in class I-A.

## DeWitt Asks Beds For Furloughed Soldiers

SAN FRANCISCO, March 4.—(AP)—Decent sleeping quarters for furloughed soldiers, a problem that has kept a lot of people up all night because it hasn't been solved in west coast cities, became a matter today of official concern to the army. Lieut. Gen. DeWitt, western defense commander and head of the fourth army, asked civilians to solve it.

## Russians Pierce Flank of Nazis' Defenses of Orel

MOSCOW, March 4.—(AP)—The Russians said the red army continued today to pursue German forces which fled their defense citadel at Rzhev, and under appalling weather conditions soviet troops plowed forward west and northwest of Kursk to heighten their menace to Orel, the hinge bastion between the central and southern fronts.

(The Berlin radio reported that Russian forces had made "local breaches" in the axis positions on the flanks of the front around Orel, 200 miles south of Moscow.)

Besides endangering Orel, operations northwest of Kursk, 80 miles south of that city, pointed a spear toward Bryansk, which has been the nazis' main supply base for central front operations.

The capture of Dmitriev-Lgovskiy, announced in a communique last night along with the capture of Rzhev and Lgov, placed the red army columns about 45 miles from the Bryansk railway through Konotop to Kiev, capital of the Ukraine.

Dmitriev-Lgovskiy is 85 miles southwest of Bryansk on the Bryansk-Lgov railway, 50 miles northwest of Kursk and 65 miles southwest of Orel.

Konotop, one of the German strongholds on the path to Kiev, already is threatened by a Russian advance which carried west of Sumy, 70 miles southeast of Konotop.

The Russian communique said that German counterattacks and attempts to set up new defense lines southwest of Rzhev were being smashed by soviet troops, and that the Russian advance continued with the capture of 11 more towns.

The Russians declared that 2,000 German dead were counted after Rzhev fell.

## F. R. Prays for Peace on Anniversary of Term

WASHINGTON, March 4.—(AP)—President Roosevelt observed the tenth anniversary of his elevation to the presidency today by praying at special religious services that god "grant us grace fearlessly to contend against evil and to make no peace with oppression."

## Allies Give Ground in One Tunisia Area

4-Mile Withdrawal Is Offset, However, by Gain In Drive to Faid Pass

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN NORTH AFRICA, March 4.—(AP)—Renewed axis attacks in northern Tunisia forced a four-mile withdrawal of the allied line in the Sedjenane sector while allied patrols following Marshal Rommel's retreat in the central sector reentered Sidi Bouzid, before strategic Faid pass, without opposition, dispatches said today. Col. Gen. Von Arnim's forces gained ground in the Sedjenane area only at the expense of very heavy casualties and "attacks in other areas where all successfully repulsed," said a communique from allied headquarters.

At the same time it was announced that light armored forces of the British eighth army had successfully engaged and repulsed enemy infantry striking east of Mareth, an anchor of the fortified line in southern Tunisia. "The enemy has reinforced his infantry with tanks in this area," the communique added.

"On the night of March 23," it said, "targets at Tunis and ob-

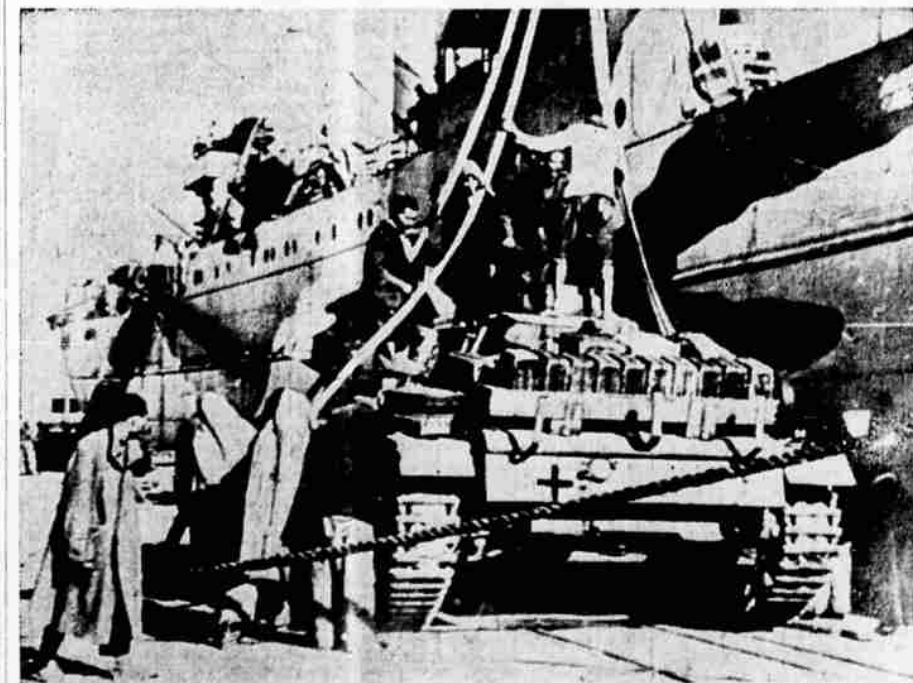
(Continued on page 6.)

## Shipper of Adulterated Prunes Draws Fines

PORTLAND, March 4.—(AP)—Roy A. Wallin, manager of the Silverton Canning company, Silverton, pleaded guilty yesterday to three violations of the national pure food and drug act and was fined \$10 on each count by Federal Judge McCulloch.

Assistant U. S. Attorney William M. Langley charged that the cannery had shipped a number of cases of adulterated canned prunes from Silverton to Grand Rapids, Iowa, and two shipments of mislabeled canned cherries to Bellingham, Wash.

## Nazis Rush Heavy Supplies Into Tunisia Battle



Here's another reason the Axis is still tough in North Africa. Nazi caption on this picture which reached the U. S. through Portugal said this big tank for Rommel was unloaded at an unannounced Mediterranean seaport.

## Pay Boost to Boeing Crew Splits Board

Minority Assails Award As "Bungling;" Unions Voice Dissatisfaction

WASHINGTON, March 4.—(AP)—The war labor board, granting slight pay increases to west coast aircraft workers after an eight-month effort to stabilize wages in the industry, was caught today between sharp criticism from its own minority members and protests from unions in the plants which produce the bulk of the nation's weapons for aerial warfare.

The board, through majority action of four employer and three public members, granted:

A 44-cent hourly general increase to 30,000 Boeing Flying Fortress workers at Seattle. An average increase of 73 cents an hour to 110,000—about half—of the workers in eight California plants.

Aircraft workers unions on the west coast had asked a 22 1/2 cent increase in the starting or basic 62 1/2 cent per hour wage.

The total of 95 cents per hour, (Continued on page 6.)

## Elkton Youths Jailed, Fined on Larceny Counts

Donald Roy Hancock, 21, and William Marion Smith, 19, both of Elkton, pleaded guilty in the Drain justice court Wednesday to complaints charging larceny of personal property. Each was booked on two counts and were accused of stealing tools and automobile accessories from two residents of Drain, Paul Morgan, state police sergeant, reported.

Hancock was fined \$25 on each of the two counts by Judge Clarence Leonard and was given 10-day jail sentences on each charge. Smith was fined \$10 on each complaint and five days in jail on each.

## Proposal For 3 Perct. Rate Up to Senate

Raising of 20 Million Revenue to Ease Burden On Property Objective

By PAUL W. HARVEY, Jr., SALEM, March 4.—(AP)—The Oregon house tentatively approved 33 to 26 today a bill to refer a 3 per cent sales tax proposal to the people in November 1944, while the senate unanimously adopted a house bill to use up to \$4,000,000 a year of surplus income tax revenues to reduce property taxes by 10 per cent within school districts.

The house vote was taken on the house taxation and revenue committee's 6 to 3 report recommending the bill. It is expected the senate will pass and send the bill to the senate tomorrow.

"The people have defeated sales tax bills four times between 1933 and 1938. Speaker McAllister took the house floor to lead the successful fight for the bill, asserting Oregon's property and income taxes are too high, and the sales tax is the only means of reducing them.

"There is little merit in the argument that the people won't approve a sales tax because they have defeated it four times already," McAllister said. "The people defeated the income tax five times before they accepted it."

McAllister charged that high property taxes, which raise 76 per cent of all revenues raised by the state and its subdivisions, have driven industries to Washington and California, and prevented new industries from locating in Oregon, Washington, which has a sales tax, raises only 44 per cent of its total income by property taxes, he said.

Rep. Robert A. Bennett, Portland, said the people are against the sales tax, it's the wrong time to introduce a controversial meas-

(Continued on page 6.)

## Allied Planes Destroy Ten Warships, 12 Transports, Wipe Out 15,000 Nipponese Troops

At Least 55 of Foe's Aircraft Downed or Damaged At Cost of Only 4 Allied Planes, Communique Says Of Disaster "Dislocating Japanese Campaign."

ALLIED HEADQUARTERS IN AUSTRALIA, March 4.—(AP)—An entire convoy of 22 Japanese ships, including 10 cruisers or destroyers, has been virtually annihilated in the Bismarck sea and 15,000 Japanese warriors bound for the battlefields of New Guinea have been wiped out "almost to a man" by airmen of the Southwest Pacific command, an allied communique announced proudly today.

The amazing victory, the bulletin said, was achieved at the cost of only three allied fighters and one bomber, while 55 Japanese planes protecting the powerful armada were shot out of the fight and many others damaged. Thirty-three of the 55 were listed as certainly destroyed and 22 as "probables."

In addition to the 15,000 ground troops killed or drowned in the furious allied onslaught, several thousand Japanese naval personnel probably lost their lives, a spokesman said.

The daring and persistent two-day aerial attack—one of the great plane-versus-ship battles of the war—"completely dislocated" the Japanese campaign, the communique said. It obviously reduced the threat to Australia.

"We have achieved a victory of such completeness as to assume the proportions of a major disaster to the enemy," the communique said, and General MacArthur added that "merciful providence must have guarded us in this great victory."

The enemy transports and warships represented an estimated tonnage of 90,000 tons.

The action was executed brilliantly under extreme weather hazards and extended from the Vitiaz straits, between the Bismarck archipelago and the New Guinea coast, south to Huon gulf, on which the Japanese bases of Lae and Salamaua are situated. The convoy started from Rabaul, New Britain, and originally consisted of 14 ships eight more vessels joined it yesterday shortly before the final, concentrated allied attack.

The convoy was first attacked Tuesday, yesterday, when the last of the 22 ships was turned into a burning, listing hulk, more than 100 tons of bombs had been dropped by the allied airmen, and, as the communique said, "the entire force was practically destroyed."

Lae Base Also Bombed

While formation after formation hammered the convoy yesterday, attack units kept up a constant assault on the enemy air-drome at Lae, dive-bombing and strafing the field and engaging in combat with any Japanese fliers able to leave the ground. Seven of these Japanese planes were shot out of the fight, bringing to 62 the number of enemy aircraft destroyed or probably destroyed in the battle against the convoy and connected actions.

A spokesman, discussing the Bismarck sea battle, said "our losses were so small because of the planes, the pilots and the breaks—plus thorough preparation."

The convoy started out behind a thick weather front rolling southward upon New Guinea, but it was sighted by air scouts and allied squadrons were prepared.

American and Australian pilots took off in some of the most fearful storms seen in the New Guinea area since the war began, crossed the treacherous mountains of New Guinea to find the convoy and return safely. The

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## Three Persons Die In Oregon Accidents

(By The Associated Press) An automobile plunged off the Oregon Coast highway two miles north of the Coos bay bridge, killing Ronald Gustafson, one-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Runner Gustafson, Houser, and injuring his mother and two other women. Coos county deputy coroner reported the accidental death of Alvin M. Olson, 65, Coonston, whose body with one foot tangled in his rowboat's anchor chain was recovered from Coos bay. The fatal wounding of Dorothy Barnes, 16, Huntington, whose gun discharged accidentally on a rabbit hunt, was reported at Baker.

## Soldier Held Here Reported A. W. O. L.

Forbes L. Buchanan, 30, was in custody here today and is being held for army authorities. Buchanan, who has been located recently at Camas Valley, was reported by Deputy Sheriff Bud Carter to be reported as A. W. O. L. from Camp Roberts, Calif., where he was reported to have walked away from the hospital while undergoing treatment.

## Ration of Meats, Butter, Cheese to Be From Book 2

WASHINGTON, March 4.—(AP)—The government plans to ration meats, butter, margarine, cheese, lard and other cooking fats and oils under a single set of coupons in ration book No. 2.

Each of the meat, butter, cheese and fat products is to be assigned point values, as in the case of canned and processed fruits and vegetables.

The points will be interchangeable. That is, a consumer could use all his points for the purchase of any one of these commodities or for any combination.

Rationing of these foods has been scheduled to start April 1, but food authorities said today it may be delayed until April 15.

The point values of these products were not disclosed; neither will be assigned each consumer. Officials said supplies of meats to be made available for civilians under the rationing system was expected to be the equivalent of 17 pounds weekly. They said, however, that the per capita supply is expected to be larger next fall.

No official estimates have been made as to how much butter, cheese, cooking fats and oils will be made available for civilians under rationing. The agriculture department has estimated, however, that the per capita supply of butter this year would be about 12.8 pounds compared with 16 last year. The per capita supply of lard and cooking compounds and oils has been estimated as 23 pounds, compared with 21 of last year. The per capita supply of margarine has been estimated as 4.6 pounds, compared with 3 last year.

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## Flood Routs Families in Los Angeles; Baby Dies

LOS ANGELES, March 4.—(AP)—Approximately 75 families were made temporarily homeless, at least one person was dead and property damage was heavy in a flood which struck Los Angeles' east side and other parts of the county early today.

Scores of families in the low-lying eastern section of the city were driven to their rooftops when four to six feet of water poured through their homes, sheriff's deputies reported.

They were removed in rowboats with only one known casualty. Ruth Corella, six weeks old, slipped from her father's arms when he was attempting to place her on the roof, and was swept away by the current.

## Levity Fact Rant

By L. F. Reizenstein

By official decree, matches made in the U. S. are to be shorter. Probably to equal the length of those "made in Heaven" and frequently fizzling out in the divorce courts.