

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe" From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO. CHARLES A. SPRAGUE, President Member of The Associated Press

War Comes: We Face the Test

The United States is at war. It is not a war of our making. The suddenness and deadliness of the enemy's attack serves outstandingly to emphasize this fact. The United States was attacked—and if there was any danger that in a war with Japan the American people would not be united, the manner in which war came wholly eliminates that danger. Of the causes, the reasons for Japan's almost incredible action, there will be ample time for consideration later. This is not a time in which these and other questions may be discussed calmly. Americans are stunned at the suddenness with which the nation was plunged into war. They can scarcely believe it. As realization dawns, they are shocked. Of a peace-loving people this is natural. There are some, especially here on the Pacific coast, near-est continental American soil to the scene of conflict, who are fearful; who are greatly disturbed by the success of initial surprise attacks. Any such fears are, for the present, unwarranted. What may come, no one knows. But for the present, it is reassuring to realize that our own strong navy stands guard; that our armed forces, thanks to our government's foresight in the last two years, are prepared to meet this attack; that though they alone are a match for the enemy, we have powerful allies whose interest also is to crush this menace as quickly as decisively as possible. We are at war. Well, we have been at war before and have acquitted ourselves honorably. We will do so again. We are all Americans, united in this war of defense.

Simpson Terms Island Forays "Suicide" Raids, not Likely To Be Repeated by Japanese

Singapore and Burma Road May Be Main Objectives of Rising Sun, Herst Says; Holds Japan Doesn't Dare Risk Main Fleet

Wanton Japanese surprise attack on American Pacific outposts from Guam to Hawaii and on shipping off the continental coast of the United States has set the flame of ruthless war burning clear around the globe. The first blow fell with staggering suddenness. Yet it was of such scope, reaching across thousands of miles of sea, that some definite strategic design in Tokyo must underlie it. What that design is can not yet be discerned. Presumably it is an attempted diversion to aid European axis mates, but it may be intended to screen some major Japanese military movement against Russia or China or Britain from American intervention until it is too late. Tokyo's announcement of a war declaration—after the fact of the bombing of Pearl Harbor and other Hawaiian targets and the torpedoing of an American ship 700 miles west of San Francisco—removes the possibility of a Japanese military party coup to checkmate peace moves. It also chains Japan as irrevocably to the wheels of the Hitler-Mussolini war juggernaut as it seals British-American mutual aid facts. And unquestionably it sweeps away the last of American hesitation or uncertainty as to national policy. There can be no turning back now from the grim business of smashing the tripartite axis both in Europe and in the far east. It has struck first, like a thief in the night. That Japan's diplomatic negotiators, in session with Secretary Hull in Washington when word of the Japanese bombing raids came, were stunned by the news is clearly indicated. Tokyo guarded its real purposes even from its own "peace" emissaries. They have been outpaws of Japan's dominant military regime. Their real mission, unknown to them, must have been to gain time for a stealthy sea deployment for the Pacific attacks. They were sent to lull American watchfulness into a false security against attack while those meaningful conversations went on. That the night can or will be repeated in force against targets so distant from Japan is wholly improbable. They appear as suicide raids, a form of naval hari-kiri, from which there may be no survivors, men, ships or planes. It is fantastic to suppose that the Japanese fleet has been risked far at sea to back them up. Britain's great Singapore base or the closure of the Burma road to China by invasion of Siam may be the real Japanese main objectives. A Japanese attack on Russia or upon the Red sea supply route for British empire forces in North Africa may be coming. Hitler's badly stalled Russian crusade needs help and the Japanese bombing raids loom as a diversion for that reason. They could not possibly have materially altered Japanese-American naval relations in the Pacific. American naval superiority forbids the risking of Japan's main fleet in sea action. Destructive not Japan's fleet at whatever cost is the prime American purpose from now on. Whatever plan of strategy the navy follows, bringing Japan's fleet to decisive action must be its ultimate design. It is now clear beyond any reasonable doubt that Japan prepared for making war in the Pacific, probably under goading German

FDR Messaged Personal Plea

Asked Jap Emperor To Aid in Bringing Peace Into Pacific

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—(AP)—President Roosevelt's personal message to Emperor Hirohito of Japan was an appeal for help in restoring traditional Japanese-American amity and preventing further death and destruction in the world. The message, sent to the emperor Saturday afternoon—a few brief hours before Japan attacked Hawaii and Manila—was made public by the White House Sunday night. At the outset of the communication, Mr. Roosevelt spoke of negotiations looking toward peace in the Pacific, the lifting of armament burdens and resumption of commerce without discrimination or favor. "I am certain," he said, "that it will be clear to your majesty, as it is to me, that in seeking these great objectives both Japan and the United States should agree to eliminate any form of military threat. This seemed essential to the attainment of the high objectives."

Mr. Roosevelt referred to the alarming developments in the far east in the last few weeks and Japan's strengthening of troop concentrations in French Indo-China. "The administration had looked with apprehension on this action," he said, and added that the people in that area, the Philippines, the East Indies, Malaya and Thailand, could not sit "either indefinitely or permanently on a keg of dynamite." After extending an assurance that this country had no thought of invading Indo-China even if every Japanese soldier or sailor were withdrawn, the chief executive said he thought the same assurance could be obtained from the governments of the East Indies, Malaya, and Thailand. "I would even undertake," he told Hirohito, "to ask for the same assurance on the part of the government of China. Thus a withdrawal of the Japanese forces from Indo-China would result in the assurance of peace throughout the whole of the south Pacific area."

"I address myself to your majesty at this moment in the fervent hope that your majesty may, as I am doing, give thought in this definite emergency to ways of dispelling the dark clouds. "I am confident that both of us for the sake of the peoples not only of our own great countries but for the sake of humanity in neighboring territories, have a sacred duty to restore traditional amity and prevent further death and destruction in the world."

The order cancelling leave of soldiers away from their posts over the weekend reached inside the walls of Oregon's penitentiary. But it didn't summon any of the inmates, though many no doubt would be glad to fight. Corporal Guy Tucker, a guardsman stationed at Fort Lewis, was watching the advance showing of the Elks' Christmas show at the penitentiary. He is a member of the Salem Civic Players, organization which is producing the show. Between acts, words to report at once at Fort Stevens was

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Air Field Japs' First Target; Civilian Airmen First to Die

HONOLULU, Dec. 7.—(AP)—First attack by Japanese airmen here seemed to center against Hickman field, huge army airport, and Pearl Harbor, where the islands' heaviest naval fortifications are located. Wave after wave of bombers streamed through the cloudy sky from the southwest, shattering the morning calm. Perhaps the first to die was Bob Tyce, owner of a civilian airport near Honolulu, who had started to spin the propeller of a

biplane when the enemy came over. One plane swooped down, machine-guns blazing and Tyce fell dead. Pointexter's residence, but he was not injured. Fire Chief Wallace Blaisdell announced the fires were under control, thanks to a radio call that brought all firemen to duty. The fires, he said "were not as bad as I expected."

Some streets were poked with big holes, and several citizens were wounded by bomb fragments. Farrington high school was converted into a hospital to care for the wounded and injured. When the attack started, radio calls ordered all sailors, marines and soldiers to report instantly to their posts. Soon, the sky was filled with puffs of smoke showing anti-aircraft batteries had gone into action, and their shells were stinging for the high-flying bombers. United States planes took to the air, and spectators on hills back of the city could see dog-fights over the area.

Whether surface units of the United States fleet were in action against the enemy could not be immediately determined, but columns of water rising from the sea, as shells hit the water, indicated a naval action. Viewed from the hills back of Honolulu, where many city folk went to view the fight, columns of heavy black smoke went skyward from Pearl harbor. There was no immediate statement by military officials as to whether any service men were killed or injured, or as to property damage to military and naval posts. Spectators said they saw the Japanese rising sun emblem on the low flying planes. Japanese Consul General Saito Kito said he believed the bombing was "by United States army planes on maneuver."

When told that there were dead and wounded as the result of the attack, Kito still expressed doubt that they were caused by Japanese planes. Unconfirmed reports said that the attackers came from two carriers. United States destroyers were seen steaming full speed from Pearl harbor, and spectators' reports of seeing shell splashes in the ocean indicated there had been an engagement between United States and Japanese ships. One of the bombs that started Honolulu fires fell near Governor

WU Gridders In War Area

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Bears Defeat Cards, 34-24

CHICAGO, Dec. 7.—(AP)—The Chicago Bears defeated the Chicago Cardinals Sunday, 34-24, and tied the Green Bay Packers for first place in the western division of the National Football league. The result created the necessity of a playoff game next Sunday between the Bears and Packers to determine which will meet the New York Giants, eastern titlists, for the league championship December 21. The Bears came from behind in the last five minutes of the fourth quarter for two touchdowns and a victory. Willkie Confident NEW YORK, Dec. 7.—(AP)—I have not the slightest doubt as to what a united America should and will do," declared Wendell Willkie Sunday on hearing that imperial Japan had declared a state of war against the United States and England.

LaGuardia on Way to Coast

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 7.—(AP)—Mayor Fiorello LaGuardia, director of the Office of Civilian Defense, and Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, assistant director, will fly to California Sunday from New York to aid in organization of civilian defense, the Civilian Defense Regional office announced here Sunday night. They will go directly to Los Angeles where Governor Olson has summoned the state defense council to meet. Mrs. Roosevelt later will visit San Diego and San Francisco later in the week, and then go to Portland and Seattle.

Bearcat Gridders Weren't Looking for Bombs Here, But--



Aboard the Lurline as it sailed from San Francisco for Honolulu November 29, members of this Willamette university football party never dreamed they might be looking up into the skies for Japanese bombers nine days later. Grave concern was felt in Salem for these boys, and the 21 other members of the football party, when it was learned Honolulu was bombed within a few hours after Willamette played the University of Hawaii a football game there Saturday. In the picture, back row, standing: F. E. Taylor, traveling passenger agent for Southern Pacific; Martin Barstad, Gordon Moore, Ted Ogdahl, Dave Kelly, Wally Olson, Neil Morley, Ken Jacobson, Andy Rogers, Bill Roder, George Constable, Bob Bennett, Chuck Furno, Paul Cookingham, Marvin Goodman, Kneeling, middle row—Pat White, Al Barrett, Al Walden, Irv Miller, Marshall Barbour, Cecil Conner, Glen Nordquist, Jim Burgess, Earl Hampton, Gene Stewart, Glen Nordquist, Jim Burgess, Coach Spec Keene, Bud Reynolds.

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Vik Quint Set For Friday Go With 'Mooks

It'll probably be Dutch Simmons and Don Butler at forwards, Courtney Jones at center and Bud Coons and Rex Hardy at guards when the Salem High Vix line up for their first hoop fracas of the season next Friday night, said Coach Harold Hauk Saturday. This quint, of three veterans and two members of last season's Jayvee squad, is most likely to start against Tillamook, perennial trouble-makers for the Vixs, said Hauk. Simmons, Cutler and Coons are holdovers from last year's runner-up to the state champion Astorias, while Jones and Hardy are up from the Jayvees. Boys looking especially good, said Hauk, include Gordy McMorris, hard-working, hard-driving transfer from Dallas; Keith Morris, sophomore from Leslie; and Stan Prather, transfer, ineligible until mid-year.

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Stormy Crossing

"Swells which resulted from a storm that twice forced the clipper back to mainland hit us on the stern quarter for five long days and the boat never ceased wallowing around from the time we left Los Angeles harbor Friday until we rounded Diamond Head Wednesday morning. "As a result of the crossing the boys had one helluva time getting back their land legs. I'll certainly vouch for that. For the first 48 hours after we landed everything I walked on either seemed to be slanting up or down. It was really a weird feeling; and I came closer to getting sick trying to dance on the night we arrived than I did at any time during the voyage. "Spec is trying desperately to get the boys back in shape in the little time he has before the game. The roughness made it impossible to hold any kind of workout on the upper deck as originally planned and the boys were either weak from not being able to keep anything on their stomachs or from exhaustion. "Gambling over here is certainly still in full swing. The gamblers, many of them orientals, carefully watch every practice session of both teams and think nothing of putting down several thousand dollars on one ball game. "I'm honestly afraid the gang won't be ready Saturday, so keep your fingers crossed and we'll hope for the best. "A letter enclosed in a clipping of a sports column from the Honolulu Advertiser which, incidentally, was written by a Japanese—Andrew Matsukado.

May Play, Yet

What now will happen to the Bearcats and party is a matter of conjecture. First reaction, following the shocking news of the Honolulu bombing Sunday, was generally that their scheduled game with San Jose State December 16 would be canceled and that the party would encounter terrific difficulties in trying to get back home. Calmer heads, however, led many here to believe that the one quick bombing at Honolulu would be all there; that Japanese aircraft carriers would not again be able to get close enough to send planes over the islands; and that after the first terrific scare civilian life would settle back to near normalcy. "If this latter thought is on the right beam, it is possible the Cats second game will be played in a stadium to be built on the island as much as for anything else, and that the Willamette party probably will be escorted back, in due time, in a troop transport ship. Lieser's warning to keep fingers crossed in regard to the game came too late, but he can rest assured plenty of us here are keeping them crossed for the safe return of the Cats and entourage.

Lindbergh Won't Talk

WEST TISBURY, Mass., Dec. 7.—(AP)—Charles A. Lindbergh, visiting at Seven Gates farm in this Martha's Vineyard island village, refused Sunday night to see newspapermen or accept any messages.

Private Planes Out

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—(AP)—The civil aviation authority issued orders Sunday night grounding all private airplanes in the United States and its possessions, except commercial airliners.

Jap Chutists Land

NEW YORK, Dec. 8.—(AP)—Ryal Arch Gunnison, in a biplane, reported today that Japanese parachute troops had been landed in the Philippines.

Sport Sparks

By RON GEMMELL

News from Honolulu reached this desk at 10:42 p. m. Sunday, via Clipper ship, probably the last to leave the islands before bombs began hitting there. The letter, from Gil Lieser, publicist with the Willamette football team, spoke of nothing more serious than sea sickness and the odds on Saturday's game there between our Bearcats and the University of Hawaii.

Lieser, when he air-mailed his account of the pre-game condition of the Bearcats—which he hoped would reach your correspondent before the game—little dreamed that he and the Bearcats were soon to be subjected to something far more serious than football. "Honestly," writes Lieser, "this trip is the greatest experience in the lives of most if not all of us." (Little knowing what all of us were doing.)

"It was unfortunate the trip over was so rough. Most of the boys and nearly all the men and women in the party of fans were pretty ill for several days and some for the entire length of the trip. "Doug McKay, Spec Keene, Tony Fraiolo, Andy Rogers and yours truly were the few fortunate who didn't find it necessary to undergo the unpleasantness of serving up at least several full course dinners to the fish.

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