

Troops Keep Japs at Bay

Communiques Reveal Heroic Actions on Midway, Wake, Luzon

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by the communiques statement that "previous reports of enemy naval concentrations west of Zamboanga province—were confirmed."

Aside from this general report on the Philippine situation, the communiques said that Japanese air activity continued throughout the day with raids in the Manila area and at Davao on the island of Mindanao.

Besides disclosing that the valiant marines on Wake Island were still holding out, the navy communiques spiked reports it had received word that the islands of Midway and Guam had been captured by the Japanese.

The communiques said flatly that Midway was still in United States hands, and that there was "no confirmation of the alleged occupation of Guam by the Japanese."

Other reports from the Pacific described how United States naval vessels vainly sought to bring a fleeing Japanese naval squadron to action.

Legaspi, port 250 miles to the south of Manila, presumably was seized as part of Japanese strategy aimed at preventing the landing of reinforcements and supplies for General MacArthur's forces.

Against this news was word from Manila headquarters of Admiral Thomas C. Hart, commander-in-chief of the US Asiatic fleet, that ships from his command had encountered Japanese warships but without results.

The Japanese naval units made off, he said, and the intervention of darkness prevented the Americans from bringing them to battle.

Admiral Hart told also of an attack on the Manila-Cavite area by a large number of Japanese planes flying high above anti-aircraft gun range.

The bombers did very great damage at the Cavite naval base and caused considerable loss of life, he said. Of 113 Japanese bombers, 11 were reported shot down.

President Roosevelt told his press conference that so far as was known the heroic little marine garrison at Wake Island—credited with sinking a Japanese light cruiser and a destroyer—still was holding out.

During the day, there was a fresh expression of confidence by President Roosevelt in ultimate victory. The state department made public a message the chief executive had sent to King George VI of England in reply to a cable from the king saying the British Empire is "proud indeed to be fighting at your side against the common enemy."

Mr. Roosevelt told the British monarch the two nations were "full comrades in arms" and declared "the forces which have plunged the world into war, however strong, can not prevail against the indomitable strength of free peoples fighting in a just cause."

There were other heartening diplomatic exchanges, but still no word as to what position Russia would take toward the struggle in the Pacific. However, an official broadcast from Moscow said Russia would fight Germany to the end and was confident the United States could defeat the Japanese aggressor.

From Chiang Kai-Shek, the Chinese generalissimo, came an offer of "all we are and all we have to stand with you until the Pacific and the world are freed from the curse of brute force and endless perfidy."

Prime Minister Churchill of England and Lord Beaverbrook, the British minister of supply, offered to help meet material shortages in any way possible. They suggested that this country take the output of three shell plants in Canada, an offer which President Roosevelt said was under study.

In addition to initiation of new tax and selective service legislation, there were other moves on the domestic front.

At the request of the justice department, a bill was introduced in the senate to give the president the same war powers that Woodrow Wilson held in World War I.

Among other things, these powers would permit the president to reorganize the executive branch of the government, to sign contracts without competitive bidding and to establish censorship of all communications by mail, cable or radio with any foreign country.

The state department announced Friday that the government was taking the French crews off the 12 French ships immobilized in American ports. The action, it was stated, was taken for the protection of "the crews and vessels." The ships include the \$80,000,000 liner Normandie, tied up at New York.

It was announced that navigation was being restricted in the waters near Portland, Me., Portsmouth, N.H., Narragansett Bay, San Diego, San Francisco, the entrance to the Columbia river, and the Strait of Juan de Fuca and Puget Sound. Presumably, these waters have been mined.

Suffering Elderly Salem Man Hangs Self in One-Room Home

In the simple one-room structure where for a number of years he had lived alone, James Henry Burns, 68, died by his own hand probably late Thursday afternoon, according to officers called to the house on Burns' place between Donald and Butteville on Friday morning.

Death of the elderly man, said to be in nowise a hermit, was by hanging, and circumstances were such that there could be no doubt of the suicide, Coroner L. E. Barrick, who with a deputy sheriff answered the Friday call, said. A note explaining that his pain was unbearable was found near the body.

Brought to public notice by the occurrence was the story of Burns, who half a century ago as a youth of 18 had been sentenced to serve a life term in the Oregon state penitentiary for his participation in the killing of a Chinese workman at a time when feeling over oriental labor ran high in the far west.

The sentence was commuted by Gov. Penney and a later governor fully pardoned Burns after he had served five years, papers in his possession at the time of his death were said to show.

Personal interest in the death of Burns was claimed by Sheriff A. C. Burk, who had known the man for a number of years, he said Friday. Last Saturday a neighbor called Burk telling him something was wrong and asking him to call on Burns, which he did Sunday.

County welfare authorities, approached Monday by the sheriff with the story of the lone man who was ill and suffering, immediately sent out a caseworker who made arrangements to have him moved into Salem to a convalescent home and obtained services of a physician.

Thursday afternoon Burns left the home and went to Burk's office, where he said his pain was more than he could bear. Burk, who understood the disease was considered incurable, advised his visitor to accept the care that was being done for him.

"I think I know a way to stop it," said Burns and left the office. Before he threw the new manila rope over an eight-inch board placed across the rafters, officers said that Burns put a dollar into an envelope and marked it for a neighbor woman from whom he had borrowed \$3 and repaid \$2.

That no one but the man himself could have placed his 335 pound body in the position in which it was found was maintained by sheriff's men. It was taken to Ransom-Miller mortuary in Aurora.

Notification of Burns' condition and of his hanging were given the sheriff's office by C. D. Chorpensing, route 1, Aurora, nearest neighbor.

Justice of the Peace Elmer Cook warned the populace against looting their heads in case of an air raid. He is aircraft observer chairman.

Robert Pattison, transportation chairman, read blackout signals, identical with those in use in Marion county, three blasts for blackout, two blasts for imminent raid and one for all clear.

Written certificates must be held by persons operating automobiles during blackout, it was announced. Mayor Newgent warned against turning on lights in the morning.

A blackout room containing clothing at night in case of an emergency is advised by Jerrold Owen, state coordinator, it was said.

Defense chairman here who were seated on the platform, in addition to speakers, were Mrs. Verne Axelson, publicity; Floyd Rude, finance; Mrs. Pearl McVey, registration; Max Gehlar, industrial; Donald Kuhn, fire; L. L. Sloper, food; John S. Bowne, clothing; Thomas Dalke, housing; Leighton Dashiell, community facilities; Phil Hathaway, water; Joe Berry, sanitation, and Don Huckabee, morale.

Hope that a roster of more than 80 men may be completed before tonight was expressed Friday by Betzer, who is on temporary leave from the state highway department to organize the company. Interested men may get further information throughout the day at the armory or by calling 3349 after 8 o'clock this morning, he said.

Hour of muster tonight, the captain said, would depend upon the time of the return from Portland of Brig. Gen. Alvin C. Baker, who is to administer the oath as he did to members of Company K, Salem rifle unit recruited Thursday. However, all would-be members of the trucking organization are asked to be at the armory by 7:30 p.m.

Other officers chosen by the board are F. H. Weir, vice-president; William Bliven, reelected secretary; C. V. Johnson, treasurer, and William McGilchrist, Jr., alternate appraiser.

Next Friday's meeting is to be a Christmas party and past president's day. Gifts are to be auctioned, and proceeds used to buy a defense bond. Meetings of December 26 and January 2 were canceled.

Guards at Reservoir And City Water Works

Report of guards placed at the Salem reservoir and at the city water source on Stayton island, made by Manager Carl E. Guenther, comprised the principal business of the Salem water commission Friday night.

Remainder of the meeting was occupied in routine matters.

Uniform Alarm Talked For Air Raid Defense

NEW YORK, Dec. 12—(AP)—A recommendation that a uniform air raid alarm system be established throughout the nation will be made to civilian defense headquarters in Washington, the second regional defense area office said Friday.

HOLLYWOOD 15c Last Times Today Plus Defense Tax 2 FEATURES

Continuous Today, 1 to 11 P.M. Guy Kibbee "Scattergood Meets Broadway" Richard Arlen "Raiders of the Desert" and Andy Devine

Added - News, Cartoons, Serial Continuous Sunday 1 to 11 P. M.

Ginger Rogers "Tom Dick and Harry" and Second Feature

Charlie and Leon Errol "Mildred Cohan" and "The 100-Ball Game" Also News and Short

Defense Units In New Home

Armory Headquarters Open 24 Hours; 300 Meet in West Salem

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8 o'clock at the courthouse by Ed Colby.

Near civilian defense offices on the second floor of the armory, Capt. Ray Betzer met recruits for the new truck company of the state guard.

Tonight at the chamber of commerce at 7:30 the 22 first aid squad captains appointed by the Red Cross by mail meet for special instructions and information concerning organization and equipment. Latest methods of combating poison gases are to be presented by Ted Roake.

West Salem residents Friday night learned that their city has been divided into four defense zones by Chief of Police F. E. Neely, city defense chairman and head of police reserves. A record of every automobile, truck and other vehicle in the community is held by Neely, who has power to requisition any or all should the need arise, it was said.

Volunteers, especially persons with experience in first aid, were asked by Dr. A. F. Goffrier, first aid and rescue chairman. Particularly are more workers needed in outlying districts, said the doctor, who mentioned Glenn Creek road district.

In case of emergency, he said, schools, churches and other public buildings would be immediately called into use as hospitals and first aid stations. He said emergency calls, in case of an air raid, should be placed with Salem police rather than a physician.

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Top Citizen



MARSHFIELD, Dec. 12—(AP)—State Rep. George C. Huggins (above) was named the outstanding citizen of Coos bay for 1941 by the Marshfield Lions club secret committee Fri. The selection was made from public nominations. He is well known in Salem.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12—(AP)—In swift reaction to the Japanese stroke at Pearl Harbor, the administration Friday produced a bill authorizing the construction of seven or eight 45,000-ton battleships and about 160 other fighting ships—an over-all increase of 30 per cent in the two-ocean navy.

The bill was offered in the senate just before that branch passed a \$10,572,350,000 measure to expand all military activities.

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Immediate steps to draft the measure were announced by Chairman Doughton (D-NC) of the house ways and means committee and George (D-Ga) of the senate finance committee after a conference with Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau.

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PANAMA, Panama, Dec. 12—(AP)—The government of Panama declared war on Germany and Italy Friday. It had been empowered by the congressional declaration of war against Japan to act similarly against other nations when circumstances required.

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Congress Set On Draft Law

Measure Would Take 19 to 44 in Army; Register 18 to 65

(Continued from page 1)

terms of the legislation, would not be liable for combatant service. It was believed some of them might be mustered for vital noncombatant duty.

At selection service headquarters, it was estimated that there are about 40,000,000 men between 18 and 65. Officials calculated that there are 25,000,000 in the 19-44 age group, including the approximately 17,000,000 already registered under the present selective service act applying to those aged 21-35.

The measure would permit the president to order the deferment from training of any men whose age makes such action advisable. The measure also would permit enlistments of men up to 45.

Congress only Thursday completed action on legislation to keep the national guard and selectees in service for the rest of the war and six months thereafter and to remove the original prohibition against use of such men outside the western hemisphere.

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Planes Heard Over Bay City

San Francisco Under Total Blackout Two Hours; AP Silenced

(Continued from page 1)

huge siren at Fort Miley hospital, on a hill overlooking the Pacific ocean, sounded the all clear at 9:59 p. m.

Hundreds of lights were turned on in the big hospital, and the stygian darkness soon vanished throughout the city.

It was the third blackout of the city during the war, and it extended to Oakland, the big Mare Island navy yard, and to the peninsula region south of San Francisco.

The Associated Press office here went into almost complete blackness when police ordered every light out.

Shrouded by a cardboard box, a tiny flashlight gave only a faint gleam of light.

Searchlights pierced the sky across the Golden Gate bridge in Marin county, 10 miles north—but only momentarily.

The Associated Press was unable to contact police for an hour after the blackout went into effect. Then an official said: "Chinatown is completely blacked out."

"We haven't received officially any reports of enemy planes or bombs, but the first we would know about that would be when they were dropped."

Residents reported hearing fast pursuit ships bearing toward the ocean. None of the craft had lights.

Sacramento was given the all clear signal at 9:10 p. m. False reports of an all clear signal were circulated here shortly before 9 p. m., but the blackout remained in effect at 9:15.

An aide to General William Ord Ryan of the fourth interceptor command said "We cannot tell you a thing" about the blackout.

Spy Suspect Kills Self

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 12—(AP)—After praying throughout the day, Nao Hamano, 45, one of 432 alien Japanese arrested on suspicion of espionage, strangled herself in jail Friday with her silk stockings, police said.

She had been in mental distress since her arrest at a rice cake factory yesterday, officers said. On her person they found a \$3000 Japanese war bond.

Germany Hit by RAF

LONDON, Dec. 12—(AP)—RAF bombers attacked Germany by daylight Friday for the third day in succession, raiding an oil refinery at Emmerich and a factory near Bremen among other targets.

Pioneer Canner Dies

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 11—(AP)—Frank E. Booth, 78, a pioneer of the canning industry in the west, died Friday.

Russ, British Pound Germans

Nazi Peace Offers Mocked by Soviet Who Slash Enemy

(Continued from page 1)

punishing to Hitler than his recent bloody retreat back from Rostov at the Caucasus entrance and, taken in connection with recent German admissions that they did not expect to be able to do much in Russia any time this winter, raised a strong possibility that vast numbers of his men would never get out of Russia alive.

In Libya—like Russia one more front in the many inter-related fronts against the axis, and very close in all save miles to the reddened jungles of Malaya and the harsh beaches of the Philippines—the British had a similar although lesser story to tell.

The spearhead of the imperial British offensive, it was announced in Cairo, had thrust an aggregate of 120 miles into Libya—breaking through 50 miles west of Tobruk, overrunning and destroying a German regiment, isolating sections of two Italian divisions, throwing a noose around the axis base of Gazala, and reaching out to within 60 miles of the major axis supply port of Derna.

This, apparently that second phase of annihilation that Prime Minister Churchill had predicted would now unfold, was made in coordination with a violent bombardment of Derna by a British cruiser, which had stood close offshore and hurled its howling tons of explosives without suffering the slightest wound.

In the central Mediterranean, meanwhile, a British submarine attacked three Italian cruisers and, said the admiralty, was believed to have sunk one of them.

Autoists Told To Tear Off Cellophane

"Time has come to tear the cellophane off automobile lamps," Assistant Police Chief E. C. Charlton, head of civil defense police organization in Salem, declared Friday night.

"Under Salem's new ordinance the cellophane is not sufficient shading for blackout lights; under any conditions it does not make for safe driving. There is no reason for cars to remain during non-blackout periods with such hindrance to a view of the road ahead, and operation with merely the cellophane protection during blackouts is illegal, so let's get rid of it now," he urged.

Jury Convicts Spies

NEW YORK, Dec. 12—(AP)—A federal court jury in Brooklyn convicted all 14 defendants in an espionage conspiracy trial Friday night after eight hours of deliberation.

Germany Hit by RAF

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GRAND

News Scoop!

First Pictures of War with Japan

NEW LOW PRICES

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Continuous From 1 P. M.

Last Showing OF "Swamp Water" At 9:35 - Attend the theatre early during the blackouts.

THE GREATEST ADVENTURE STORY SINCE "TREASURE ISLAND"!

SWAMP WATER

From The Saturday Evening Post Story by Verone Bell

WALTER BRENNAN WALTER HUSTON ANNE BAXTER DANA ANDREWS

2nd Hit Feature: "OFFICER AND THE LADY" With Bruce Bennett and Rochelle Hudson

TODAY!

MIDNITE SHOW TONIGHT

Out in Time to "Beat the Blackout"

DON AMECHE AND **MARY MARTIN**

in the hit that'll make you kiss the blues goodbye

WITH **ROCHESTER** Jack Benny's man Friday... sleeping and dancing... remember them ever!

OSCAR LEVANT the hit-wit of "Information Please!"

CONNIE BOSWELL

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Not a Scott in a Carload of Lafts!

Get Aboard the Screamer for a Hilarious Holiday in Hollywood where the misadventures of a mis-leading lady drive the Great Profile Wacky!

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Starring **John Barrymore** **Frances Farmer** **Eugene Pallette**

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