

Naval, Air Battle Rages In Java Sea

Huge Toll Of Enemy Revealed

Stimson Says US Army Holds 5-1 Pacific Margin

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27 (AP)—Secretary of War Stimson declared Friday that American army fliers and anti-aircraft gunners in the southwest Pacific have a five to one margin over the Japanese in point of losses inflicted.

Summarizing the toll exacted from the foe since Pearl Harbor, Stimson said in a communique that army fliers and gunners had shot down 245 enemy planes, while but 48 American craft were lost in air combat.

The total was raised to 410 by the addition of 165 Japanese planes shot down by the American volunteers serving with the Chinese. The volunteers lost but 31 aircraft of their own.

The ratio was described as "particularly significant in view of the overwhelming superiority of the enemy in practically every encounter."

Excluded from the first comprehensive report on the army fliers' triumphs were losses of planes on the ground, which the communique said had been heavy on both sides.

In hammering at the Japanese invasion fleets, the army airmen have probably sunk at least 19 Japanese vessels, including the battleship Haruna, and seriously damaged 31 others, Stimson said in his statement, which was more inclusive than earlier such war department summaries.

(In addition, Secretary Knox reported Wednesday that navy warships and warplanes in the Pacific had sent 53 Japanese ships to the bottom.)

The army fliers' score included 11 transports probably sunk, and 14 seriously damaged, and Stimson observed: "Many of the enemy transports were sunk before troops had an opportunity to disembark, so (Turn to Page 2, Col. 1)

Water Guards Boost City Board Costs

No army guards may be expected to replace those now paid by the Salem water commission to guard municipal water system properties, the commission was informed at its regular meeting Friday night.

As this notification from State Civilian Defense Coordinator Jerrold Owen was read, commissioners glanced to the January balance sheets on the table before them to learn that \$1,297.37 had been spent the first month of this year for civilian defense. Major portion of this sum, Manager C. E. Guenther explained, was for guarding services. Operating expenses for the entire month totaled \$18,149.89.

A sick-leave program for employees, presented for study at the last meeting, was tabled in the absence of Commission Chairman Van Wieder.

Guenther was authorized to take initial steps toward possible construction of a bridge to the Stayton island water system property. County Engineer N. C. Hubbs has estimated such a structure could be constructed for approximately \$1800, the board was told.

Net income for the water system during 1941, the annual report presented at the meeting showed, was \$228,426.12. Of this sum, \$147,922.43 was from metered residences, \$48,647.45 from commercial accounts, and \$32,856.24 from industrial accounts. Municipal sales totaled \$8,879.77 and new services brought in \$1751.81.

Operating expenses for the year were \$89,415.16; non-operating expenses \$10,761.73. Financial expenses totaled \$78,329.31, of which \$78,137.50 went to bond interest payments.

New Jap Push Aimed North



British lines held on the Sittoung river but smoke rolled over Rangoon (1) as the scorched earth torch was applied by defenders. Bassein was bombed. A new thrust toward the Shan states (2) was looked for from Thai bases, and Chinese troops were pouring into the area to reinforce the defenders. A thrust toward India also was foreseen and some dock areas around Chittagong were evacuated.

Dies Committee Tells Jap Spy Program in US

Report Reveals Plans for Conquest in Four Phases; Recites Espionage Covering Years in Gathering Data of Military Importance

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27 (AP)—A startling recital of years of Japanese spying on American military and naval activities and vital water and oil supplies, combined with careful scouting of the Pacific coastline, was unfolded Friday night in a report of the Dies committee investigating un-American activities.

The committee, after investigating Japanese propaganda and espionage for more than a year, presented maps, pictures, intercepted messages and testimony to support its charges that Japanese, alien and American born, formed a menacing fifth column in California, Hawaii, the Philippine Islands and the Panama canal region.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27 (AP)—A plan for Japanese conquest of the United States, written by Lt. Gen. Kiyokatsu Sato and included in the Dies committee report made public Friday night, envisions a war divided into these four phases:

1. Capture of Hawaii.
2. Destruction of the American fleet and the Panama canal.
3. Landings on the American west coast, and consolidation of forces west of the Rocky mountains.
4. An advance to the east coast.

The report told also of espionage and anti-American activities of Japanese societies and Japanese language schools. It told of slow, thorough work of the Japanese in establishing themselves in California, especially the south. (Turn to Page 9, Col. 4)

Inn-Keepers Indicted by Polk Jury

DALLAS, Feb. 27—The Polk county grand jury returned an indictment this afternoon charging K. Shimmin and Ralph Lautenschlager with maintaining a common nuisance at Curly's Chicken Inn, night club located near Eola.

The two men were immediately arrested on bench warrants and brought into circuit court here where their bail was fixed at \$500 each. They were ordered to be arraigned here at 1 p. m. next Friday, Dist. Atty. Bruce Spaulding announced.

The indictment alleged that on February 26 and for many months prior to that date the defendants unlawfully suffered large crowds of boisterous, noisy and lawless people to assemble at late and unusual hours in and around their resort. The public peace was disturbed and the nearby highway obstructed, it charge.

Witnesses listed in the indictment were Vern Hill, state policeman; Joe Kerschner and Ben L. Stroup. Frank Farmer served as foreman of the grand jury.

Camps In Jap Move Opposed

Solon in Coast Probe Ponders Spot for Aliens

SEATTLE, Feb. 27 (AP)—Rep. John H. Tolan, chairman of the congressional committee checking up on the west coast enemy alien problem, expressed opposition Friday to internment of Japanese in abandoned CCC camps.

"Most of these camps are where there is timber," the California congressman declared in an interview after his arrival here for a hearing Saturday.

"The fire hazard will be tremendous and we've got to have the timber for ships, cantonments and other war purposes. I'm against establishing any internment camps where there is timber, because even in the absence of sabotage there would be suspicion if aliens of any enemy nation were in the vicinity."

Congressman Tolan said one of the major problems in connection with possible evacuation of Japanese from the Pacific slope is that "Nobody wants them. The committee has received numerous expressions from inland areas to that effect."

A federal agency to administer the property of aliens and citizens evacuated from strategic Pacific coast areas should be established immediately, Tolan said at Portland before leaving for Seattle.

At a press conference Tolan, head of the committee which heard testimony here Thursday on removal of Japanese-Americans, said the agency was needed to preserve civilian unity.

"Aliens are forced to sell their property at tremendous losses," he said. "We can not afford disruption of civilian morale due to evacuation merely because there is no equitable provision made for taking care of abandoned property."

Admitting that alien evacuation would hamper the national farm program, Tolan said "that is really a secondary consideration and comes after the safety of the nation." Most Japanese in this region are truck garden operators.

Tolan said that Thursday's hearing brought to the committee a realization of the fire threat to Pacific northwest forests because of possible alien action.

He proposed that the agency to administer property embrace the entire Pacific coast with branch (Turn to Page 2, Col. 5)

Merchantman Sinking Told By Survivors

NEW YORK, Feb. 27 (AP)—The torpedo sinking of a huge British merchantman in the north Atlantic was revealed Friday in an interview with 15 survivors who attributed their rescue to an ordinary ship's bucket and a stalwart fourth mate and chief engineer who regaled the men with songs to keep them awake and cheerful.

Capt. Wilfred G. Evans, 45, of Aberystwyth, England, who lost 21 pounds while leading an open lifeboat through six days and five nights of "freezing hell" and "greedy seagulls," told the story at the Long Island college hospital in Brooklyn.

He said that two men were killed in the torpedo explosion shortly before dawn February 6 and 54 others were missing and believed dead in three lifeboats caught in the gulf stream which swirled them toward the central Atlantic.

The third naval district headquarters gave permission for publication of the story. The identity of the ship was withheld.

Touring Coast on Bicycle

The true Yankee won't be deterred from his summer vacation trip to America's beauty spots by his lack of auto tires. He'll jump on his bicycle and pedal away for exercise and enjoyment with nothing to stop him from seeing all the byways of the highways. Wendell Keck, graduate of Willamette university, describes his last summer's journey on bicycle down the Oregon coast on the feature page of Sunday's Oregon Statesman.

US-Dutch Fleet Forces Nippon Warships Into Fight; Turn In Russo-Jap Relations Expected

Russ Crushing Trapped Nazi Crack Troops

Piece by Piece 16th German Army Hit In Frozen Swamps

LONDON, Feb. 27 (AP)—The Leningrad radio reported Friday night that Russian units on the Leningrad front had killed 1140 more Germans and had destroyed an artillery battery and six more pillboxes in the German defenses. A German counter-attack in one sector was repulsed, the radio report said.

MOSCOW, Feb. 27 (AP)—Segment by segment, the German 16th army was being crushed in its fortifications on the frozen swamps of Staraya Russia Friday night, red army dispatches said, despite counter-attacks launched in the desperate hope of saving at least some of 96,000 trapped Nazi troops.

At least six encircled divisions—these were cited specifically—faced complete disaster. Despite the heaviest of losses the Germans refused to surrender and the red army was fighting on the Stalin principle that in this case they must die.

It was in the Nazis' fortified settlements that the greatest slaughter was being recorded. A German unit in one such strong point was wiped out to the last man.

Besides the three divisions originally trapped, the 290th, the 30th and an SS division, the Russians now are grinding down the 5th division, the 18th division, brought up from Tikhvin, and the 81st division, recently moved east from occupied France.

Some 140 miles north of this vast and bloody entrapment, the defenders of Leningrad struck out in force to divert part of the German reserves which the Nazis have thrown into action to try to stem General Pavel A. Kurochkin's northwest offensive.

Debate Teams Meet Today

Six Remain in Contest As High School Speech Tournament Nears End

Six debate teams compete at 8:30 this morning to open semifinals in the five divisions of Willamette university's eighth high school speech tournament. Decisions are to be announced at 4 o'clock this afternoon.

Friday's results, as announced by Dr. H. E. Rahe, tourney director, to include those still in the running, were:

Two debate teams from Beaverton and one each from Salem, Dallas, Banks and Grants Pass. Extempore speaking—Three from Salem, two each from Banks and Hillsboro, one each from Medford, McMinnville, Camas, Wash., Beaverton and Albany.

Humorous interpretation—Two from Dallas, one each from Lebanon, Banks and Parkrose.

Serious interpretation—Three from Oregon City, two each from (Turn to Page 2, Col. 6)

Thursday's Weather

Weather forecasts withheld and temperature data delayed by army request. River Friday, 1.2 feet. Max. temperature Thursday, 47, min., 23.

Decorated



The name of Lieut. Willibald C. Bianchi (above), of New Ulm, Minn., was added to the list of congressional medal of honor winners for performing conspicuous gallantry in action February 3 in the Philippines. Gen. Douglas MacArthur recommended the award for Bianchi, a member of the 45th infantry, Philippine scouts. Bianchi, who personally silenced a Jap machine gun nest, was wounded three times.

U-Boats Sink US Tankers

Two American Vessels Torpedoed in Atlantic One in Sight of Shore

By The Associated Press

Flames roaring up from two torpedoed tankers brought the raging war at sea close to the United States shore again with the disclosure Friday that two American vessels were attacked off the Atlantic coast, one in sight of New Jersey's seashore resorts.

An axis U-boat, with running lights a glow, converted the loaded Standard Oil tanker E. P. Resor into an inferno with one torpedo hit when the ship was off the New Jersey coast. Only two men of a crew of 41 were listed as rescued.

The navy announced the torpedoing of the Atlantic Refining company tanker W. D. Anderson off Florida, with only one survivor from a crew of 36 reported in safety. The survivors said flames had completely enveloped the 10,227-ton vessel.

While the 7451-ton Resor remained a smoking hulk, survivors of a huge British merchantman told how the "biggest sub we ever saw" sank their ship February 6 about 900 miles from New York. Two men were killed by the blast, 15 reached New York and 54 are missing in three lifeboats that were helpless in a 2 1/2-knot Gulf (Turn to Page 9, Col. 6)

Salem Cannery Workers Seek AFL Charter

Application for a charter for a union of Salem cannery workers was to be forwarded to American Federation of Labor offices this morning by Charles R. Smith, AFL organizer, Smith announced Friday night following an organizational meeting of cannery employees here. "Practically every cannery in the city" is represented in the roll of organizing members, Smith said.

A delegation from the Portland cannery workers' union, attending the Friday night meeting here, offered a \$25 defense bond to the Salem member bringing in the largest number of applicants during the next two weeks. The union is to meet each Friday night at Labor temple, Smith said.

Warships of Japan and the United Nations battled in the Java sea Saturday morning in a clash which may signal the start of an all-out Japanese drive to invade and wrest Java from the United Nations.

The two sea forces met and went into battle formation some time Friday night, the naval department at Batavia announced, but no details of the certainly bitter fighting were given immediately.

"Certain United States units are involved," in the battle, a navy spokesman in Washington acknowledged soon after first reports of the fighting were received from Batavia. He added: "We know none of the results as yet."

There was little doubt that the Japanese had pressed for time in their Java adventure. Dispatches have told of the strengthening of the Java stronghold by "many thousands" of American, British and Australian troops as the showdown for this rich Dutch colony approached.

Earlier Friday the allied air force had come upon a Japanese fleet off the island of Bangka on the western edge of the Java sea and just off Sumatra. Bombers went into action immediately, but the results of the engagement are not known.

It may be that United Nations naval forces were sent out to engage this fleet or that the unit seen off Bangka was only part of a larger enemy invasion force closing in on Java.

Whatever the disposition of the Japanese forces, the unit off Bangka was given a severe pounding. Returning fliers said they encountered a concentrated barrage of anti-aircraft fire and were forced to fight off a formation of ten Japanese navy fighter planes.

The anti-aircraft fire was so intense allied fliers were unable to observe the effects of their attack.

It was certain that any Japanese force approaching Java's shores will find the lack of allied air resistance which has eased their burden in other campaigns. Although the air strength of Java is not known, it includes Dutch Australian and United States units with an unknown number of flying fortresses.

The possibility of some important turn in the strange neutrality arrangement between Russia and Japan arose Friday night.

First of all, the Japanese began to talk of breaking through the Indian ocean to "destroy the whole Anglo-Soviet plan of material cooperation"—that is, presumably, to cut off Russia's supply lines between Britain, the United States and the Persian gulf.

The comment quoted was by the Japan Times and Advertiser, which is controlled by the Tokyo foreign office, and aside from the curious bellicosity of its tone toward a nation with which Japan was on a neutral footing it was interesting because of the fact that it came on a day that brought a disclosure of the first Japanese attack upon the territory of India.

This was a Japanese bomber raid on the Andaman islands, which lie in the Bay of Bengal of the British-allied sea routes from the Indian ocean.

And from Kuibyshev, the al- (Turn to Page 2, Col. 3)

McNary Backs Soldiers' Hall For Salem

Efforts to gain for Salem a federal recreation center for soldiers have the support of Sen. Charles L. McNary, the army-liaison committee here was advised Friday. They had asked his aid after the city had been dropped from a list of locations for centers around the Corvallis entombment.

Pearce Davies, assistant regional director of the federal security agency, wrote to the committee preliminary surveys had been made of the area and tentative plans established for recreation buildings at Albany and Corvallis while Salem's needs were not felt to be so great.

Sprague Bans Beach Fires

Gov. Charles A. Sprague Friday ordered state police to prevent building of fires on Oregon beaches, which he said might be used to signal enemy vessels at sea.

Gov. Sprague issued the order in response to a request by Lieut. Gen. John L. DeWitt, San Francisco, in charge of the western defense command.