

British Tear Japs in India From Positions

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a road that skirts the western side of Lake Lokiat.

A second Japanese force that earlier had driven into India near Tamu, 45 miles southeast of Imphal, was repulsed when it tried to reach the Ramu-Palet road. This force was said to be within 38 miles of Imphal.

The general picture of the fighting was obscured somewhat by the jungle jigsaw, but the allied defensive plan appeared to call for holding the two main roads to Imphal from Tamu and Tiddim, which leads into a hillock-dotted plain that would provide plenty of potential airfields for the invading Japanese.

Loss of Imphal would threaten allied control of all Assam, as well as all river, rail and air communications supporting United Nations operations in China and Burma. Officials here were confident, however, that allied forces available in the threatened area were superior to the Japanese both on the ground and in the air.

The new enemy column pushing up the Manipur river valley south of Imphal had established road blocks at several points, which the British were countering with the defensive "box system" they earlier used with success in Arakan. Heavy fighting was reported in progress north of Tunzang, which is 17 miles north of Tiddim in Burma.

FDR Opposed To Deferring Fishermen

WASHINGTON, March 24—(AP)—President Roosevelt apparently does not favor any special draft deferments for the commercial fishing industry.

Asked a question along that line at his press-radio conference today, Mr. Roosevelt said that about a year ago a proposal was submitted which required a month for 20 or 30 government employees to check on.

They came up with the conclusion, he added, that boys of 16 can catch fish as well as boys of 18. Older people also can catch fish, he said, citing himself as an example.

The reporter who brought up the subject told Mr. Roosevelt that each commercial fisherman catches about 80,000 pounds of fish a year, which, she remarked, was a lot of food.

WFA Urges Farm Incentive

WASHINGTON, March 24—(AP)—The war food administration joined the seed industry today in urging congress to appropriate \$25,000,000 for incentive payments to farmers to spur production of much needed forage crop seeds.

Representatives of the industry and of the WFA appeared before a senate agriculture subcommittee with a proposal to pay farmers who agreed to save forage crops for seed \$3.50 an acre on an unlimited acreage instead of on the present 25-acre limitation plus 10 cents a pound for red clover, alfalfa, alsike and ladino clover seeds produced and 5 cents a pound for sweet clover seeds and such other as may be determined later.

Leo Van O. Kelly, Veteran Hop Man, Starts New Ranch

MISSION BOTTOM, March 24—Leo Van O. Kelly, formerly of Mission Bottom but recently living in West Salem, has purchased 100 acres of irrigated land in Malheur county near Ontario, and is setting out early and late and cluster hops. Wire, poles and other supplies are on the way to the ranch Kelly has informed his former neighbors here.

Kelly has been in the hop business for 42 years as buyer, seller and grower. He has been located in various hop producing areas including Mission Bottom, Independence and the Yakima country in Washington.

Roots of the hops for the Malheur ranch are to be brought from Yakima. Since he left Mission Bottom, selling his property to Jack Crane, he has been in Wyoming investigating oil property.

ON the HOME FRONT

By ISABEL CHILDS

He was trying to persuade the waitress to pay more attention to him, and although I could not see through my high-walled booth, what I could hear led me to understand why the girl discouraged his advances.

"Aw, — I'm gonna be shovin' off purty soon, and then you'll be sorry."

To her murmured query: "You bet, within a month!"

So I sat and fumed. The newspapers can't print some pretty legitimate news lest they let some troop movement leak into the light of day, but any drunk soldier or sailor can tell an entire restaurant! And so, far, far into my dinner.

I was ready to leave when more of the conversation forced itself upon me. "Aw, —", in another four weeks I gotta go into the navy, and you . . . Here came some more murmuring from the girl and a response in the youth's heavy voice "Well, I'll go in the navy if they'll take me, but it'll prob'ly be the army, and . . . Here, I left without my dessert."

Reds Threaten To Trap Nazis

A (Continued from Page 1) A

nounced the breakthrough to the Dniester at Zaleschiki, and also the capture en route to the "operationally important" rail junction of Chortkov, 22 miles to the north, and Gysiatin rail station 17 miles east of Chortkov. An order of the day, recorded by the Soviet monitor, recorded the gains.

The daily communique later announced that Soviet troops striking northwest of besieged Tarnopol had crossed the Sereth river and cut the railway to Lwow at a point only 60 miles from that big axis communications city in southern Poland.

The stroke snapped the principal German feeder route into Tarnopol, made the capture of Tarnopol an early possibility, and further opened the way for three-way drive on Lwow.

The Russians also broke into the outskirts of Proskurov, 62 miles east of Tarnopol on the trunk railway to Odessa.

Voznesensk, German Bug river stronghold 80 miles north of Odessa in southern Russia, also fell to Russian assault troops, said the communique.

At Zaleschiki the Russians were only five miles from northern Bucovina, 60 miles from old Czechoslovakia in the Carpathian mountains, and just 20 miles from the Czernowitz-Lwow railway.

The cutting of that railway would split axis forces in Poland from the demoralized Rumanian-German legions in Bessarabia, already reported fighting with their backs to the Prut river in an area 70 miles southeast of Czernowitz.

East of Zaleschiki, thousands of Germans appeared to be facing early annihilation or capture. In a 3500-square mile corner of the southeastern Ukraine between Mogilev Podolski and between the Dniester and the Odessa-Proskurov railway, these retreating Germans were almost completely pocketed.

Even if the Germans escape into Bucovina — the scene of the disastrous Polish government and army flight before the German invaders of 1939 — they are likely to find their rail escape routes snapped north and south of Czernowitz.

Pine-Fir Wage Briefs to Be Filed

PORTLAND, March 24—(AP)—Briefs on the pine-fir wage dispute may be filed by employers and CIO and AFL unions up to April 8, the West Coast Lumber commission said today.

The briefs and the commission's report of a hearing concluded yesterday will go to the national war labor board which assumed jurisdiction in the dispute when a strike of 80,000 northwest lumber workers loomed.

The AFL and CIO asked increases from a basic wage of 90 cents an hour to \$1.05 and \$1.02½ respectively.

Draft Board Gets Orders for More Men

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occupational deferments) those men under 26 who are found unfit for military service or fit only for limited military service, if such registrants are contributing to "war production or war supporting activities."

The last instruction, which is expected to diminish the number of 4F classifications handed out, will meet the complaints of many industries who argue that as fast as their "essential" men obtain 4F classification, they leave the war industry and hunt up better-paid jobs of other kinds which are open to them because of their draft-exempt status.

Under the new action, a draft board may make such a worker 2A or 2B, which will make him subject to WMC regulations restricting job transfers.

McNutt had created the supreme new committee to ration out occupational deferments, for men under 26, and secured agreement of the army and navy that deferments should be considered for key men in railroading, logging, coal mining and other war-supporting industries.

The army had held out for deferments only in a group of industries producing "must" munitions—chiefly those needed for an invasion of Europe.

Almost immediately after McNutt announced the new super-committee, Hershey notified his state directors of the arrangement, and at the same time set up an interim procedure to be followed while McNutt's committee is organizing its permanent program.

Under the interim procedure, effective immediately, authorized representatives of the appropriate government agencies, may endorse deferment requests of employers in the industries in which the agencies are concerned. These endorsed requests will be sent straight to state draft directors at present.

The state directors do not have to accept the endorsements.

Selective service orders to all men under 26 with occupational deferments, except farm deferments, to report for pre-induction physicals unless they have been physically examined within the last 90 days does not mean these men necessarily are being put in 1-A immediately.

Hershey told the state directors such registrants may be retained in 2-A or 2-B even after the examination and the action "is designed to accelerate the processing for induction of those who will become available for military service and to provide the director and employers with information regarding those who are not acceptable for military service."

All occupational deferments had previously been ordered reviewed in conformance with President Roosevelt's recommendation February 28. But today Hershey instructed local boards to review and reconsider the classifications

of registrants under 26 before proceeding to reconsider older registrants. This applies to classes 3-A, the rapidly dwindling class for dependency; class 2-A, 2-B, 2-C and 3-C, which include among them all occupational deferments, including agriculture.

WAVE Booth Draws Dozens Of Prospects

Dozens of girls between the ages of 20 and 36 — and some younger and older — have contacted Recruiting Specialist Joan Obidime, who has been in a different store each day the past week, answering questions about the WAVES.

Eight patriotic Salem firms have joined in a campaign of a week's cooperation with the WAVE recruiter and each day a recruiting booth has been set up in one store, where Specialist Obidime has answered questions, given out pamphlets about the WAVES and interviewed prospective recruits.

Today the booth has been set up at the Metropolitan store, and Specialist Obidime will again interview women who are eligible to join this branch of the service, or will answer questions of parents or friends of prospective WAVES.

The navy offers 256 jobs to women, and every WAVE who takes one of these positions, relieves a man for active duty, says Specialist Obidime.

The WAVE recruiter can be interviewed at her booth at the Metropolitan today, or at Johnson's on Monday.

Other firms cooperating with the WAVES in this recruiting campaign have been Stevens and Son, Miller's, Smart Shop, Penney's, Arbuckle-King, and Sears, Roebuck.

Morse Declares Charges Backfire

PORTLAND, Ore., March 24—(AP)—Wayne Morse, Eugene, republican candidate for the US senate, declared tonight that a whispering campaign charging him with being "pro-labor, pro-Harry Bridges, pro-New Deal and pro-Roosevelt" is backfiring as the facts become known.

"I do not believe in the executive seizing the powers of congress or in congress relinquishing its powers," Morse said in a radio broadcast. "I do not believe in attempting to gain political ends by packing the supreme court or in any subterfuge that acts to weaken the respect of the people for the law of the land."

April Transport Parley Postponed

No representative from the office of defense transportation, Portland, will be in Salem for the regularly scheduled conference the first Tuesday in April because of a heavy work load. ODT personnel informed the Salem war price and rationing board office Friday. However, the service here will be resumed as soon as possible, it was said.

Court Halts Chaplin Case Questioning

By GENE HANDSAKER
LOS ANGELES, March 24—(AP)—A court ruling this afternoon prevented efforts of Charlie Chaplin's lawyer to question Joan Berry about a romance with another man, and Attorney Jerry Giesler told reporters: "This closes the door on our books."

Immediately after a brief recess Giesler announced he was through with the cross examination of the government's chief witness in its efforts to convict the actor on a Mann act indictment.

US Atty. Charles H. Carr said he had only "another question or two" on re-direct examination.

The ruling followed a 58-minute huddle at Judge J. F. T. O'Connor's bench in which Giesler said later he had made various offers of proof in resisting the government's objection to his line of questioning.

The question which preceded the lengthy conference and to which US Atty. Charles H. Carr made quick objection, was:

"In November, 1942, before you left for Tulsa, did you have a conversation with Hans Reusch in which you said in effect that you were broke but that you knew where you could get some money in Oklahoma from a business man who had to give you some money because you had made a trip from Mexico and there is a law against that in the United States and he can't do that?"

Reusch was no further identified.

It was propounded by Giesler, defending the action against Mann act charges involving a trip to New York, where Chaplin met his 24-year-old protegee, and came at the start of the afternoon session of court.

The forenoon session was terminated abruptly when Miss Berry broke into sobs upon the introduction of a letter she wrote Chaplin in which she said: "I know what I've done is past forgiving," and "I'm going back to New York."

Co-op Hospital Committee Named

MT. ANGEL — A committee composed of Rev. John Cummins, Frank Hettwer, James H. Fournier, Frank Aman and Albert Diehl, has been chosen to collect additional data on the proposed cooperative hospital.

As soon as sufficient information has been gathered, another public meeting will be called to acquaint the people with the findings and learn the wishes of the people.

Seized Alien Patents Attract Oregon Residents

PORTLAND, Ore., Mar. 24—(AP)—Foreign patents, seized by the government and made available to the public through the alien property custodian's office, here, have attracted interest of Oregon residents, Director Roy Shawcross said today.

Pendleton interests are investigating patents for production of digitals from foxglove, of which Oregon grows one-eighth of the country's crop. Others have indicated interest in methods of transforming silica sands into glassware; dehydration of peas for food; and new processes for plastics and lumber by-products.

Alaska Radio Blunder Denied

WASHINGTON, March 24—(AP)—Communications Commission Chairman James Fly vigorously denied today that FCC's radio intelligence division led a US naval task force into unsafe waters off Alaska.

Testifying before a house committee investigating the FCC, Fly made his statement in answer to a promise Wednesday by Representative Miller (R-Mo.) that he would produce two sailors to substantiate a story that the Japanese trapped a task force "because of bungling" by FCC.

"No such incident ever occurred," Fly asserted. "The radio intelligence division never at any time in its history suggested the movement of any ship or fleet or anything of the sort."

"All we do is furnish the army or the navy bearings on radio transmission we pick up at some particular moment," he insisted, "and they do all the figuring and make the decisions."

Representative Magnuson (D-Wash.) inquired, "then you mean it is completely up to the navy to determine what to do about information you give them and you couldn't possibly have misled a task force?"

Fly nodded in agreement.

Fliers Defy Jap Flak

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explosions. Many small barges were damaged in a 40-ton raid on Dagua and Kairiru island, west of Wewak.

The continuous aerial attacks on Wewak, prime plane and supply center, have resulted in great damage, including the destruction of 44 anti-aircraft guns since March 11 and heavy losses inflicted on enemy gun crews, MarArthur's communique said.

Farm Machine Export Only 2 Per Cent

WASHINGTON, March 24—(AP)—Farm machinery exported under lend-lease has been less than 2 per cent of the American supply, President Roosevelt said today, and emphasized that those exports are helping feed the American army overseas, soon to rise to 5,000,000 men.

Mr. Roosevelt replied indirectly at his press-radio conference to complaints, in congress and elsewhere, that farm machinery is being shipped abroad when American farmers are unable to get all they want.

At the capital, meantime, an investigation of the farm machinery situation was asked by Senator Clark (D-Mo.). He introduced a resolution proposing that the agriculture committee review present and prospective production of farm machinery, and "secure facts" as to what amount of farm machinery has been sent to areas outside the United States and what plans have been adopted for future foreign distribution.

The president read a letter from Foreign Economic Administrator Leo T. Crowley citing the 2 per cent figure. Crowley, Mr. Roosevelt announced, has resigned as alien property custodian in order to give all his time to his other two big government jobs, foreign economic administrator and chairman of the federal deposit insurance corporation.

LIBERTY

—CONT. FROM 1 P. M.—

ENDS TODAY!
Warner
Myrna
Baxter
"BROADWAY BILL"

Russell Hayden
"SADDLES AND SAGEBRUSH"

"CAPTAIN MIDNITE"

Midnite Tonite!
... STARTS TOMORROW!

Humphrey Bogart
Mary Astor

"ACROSS THE PACIFIC"

CO-FEATURE!
DICK FORAN

Warner Bros.
Western Thrills
"CHEROKEE STRIP"

Ends Today! Academy Winner ★ Donald Woods Elyse Knox
"HOSTAGES" "Hi-ya Sailor"

MIDNITE TONITE! and STARTS TOMORROW!

SEVEN GREAT STARS
IN TWO OF THE SCREEN'S
GREATEST HITS!

Romance as surging as the Mississippi Drama as mighty as the men and women who lived and loved on the river!

Barbara STANWYCK
Joel McCREA
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BANJO on my KNEE

Tyrone POWER
Alice FAYE
Don AMECHE
Brian DONLEVY
IN OLD CHICAGO

Directed by JOHN CROMWELL
A 20th CENTURY-FOX PICTURE

LATEST NEWS

CONTINUOUS DAILY FROM 1:00 P. M.

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STARTS TODAY OUTSTANDING DOUBLE BILL!

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BOB HOPE BETTY HUTTON
"Let's face it"

It's the funniest thing... ever on film! With Cole Porter's swinging-sentimental songs!

Plus Serial — Chap. No. 5 "CAPTAIN AMERICA"

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Wintertime
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Happy SONGS! Happy SONJA! Happy HILARITY!

HOLLYWOOD
Last Times Today
Continuous
Starting 2 P. M.

ALASKA Highway

THE FALCON
COEDS

ELSI NORE
TODAY

GARSON PIGEON
Madame Curie

First "Lucky Cowboy" with Eddie Dow
Dinner early cartoon
"How to Be a Sailor"

Motion Picture Industry
RED CROSS WEEK
March 22nd thru 29th