

Filthy Freighter-Transport Key to Nip Troop Movements

By Russell Brines
Associated Press War Editor

Deep in the holds of a filthy ship, hundreds of Japanese soldiers are crowded so tightly that the rats and cockroaches scurry away in protest. Beneath them and around them cargo is piled high. The 3,000-ton craft groans and wallows on her slow course.

This is Japan's war hybrid, the freighter-transport, which has been mentioned with increasing frequency in Gen. Douglas MacArthur's communiques. Southwest Pacific airmen thus far in August have sunk or damaged 63 freighter-transports.

Reported Arrested



Moscow radio announced that Marshal Ion Antonescu, above, deposed Romanian premier, is under arrest, taken in hand by the Romanian royal guard of King Mihai. (AP Wirephoto)

The American, accustomed to man-sized ships, is apt to disregard as unimportant the mounting toll of these small vessels. Actually they are veritable in Japan's shipping backbone.

As Japanese prisoner in late 1942, I traveled from Manila to Shanghai aboard a freighter-transport. She was the slatternly Maya Maru, 4000 tons of utility.

The Maya could hold probably 800 soldiers, under conditions to which Japanese troops are accustomed. Her additional cargo space was considerable. Every square foot, seemingly, had been utilized. There were no comforts.

Quarters Poor

We slept in troop quarters astern. Two holds have been outfitted with double-decked wooden shelves, covered with thin straw matting. More than 200 of us were dumped in there—civilian internees, neutrals, British Indians, Formosan camp followers and a few Japanese officers. Nipponese soldiers were in similar quarters forward. High-ranking officers occupied the ship's few staterooms.

Each person had enough room to lie down, provided the boat didn't toss. Amidships, the shelves widened, and sleeping there was T-formation. Additional holds, beneath us, held a troop of horses and considerable loot from Manila.

Galley on Deck

The galley was on deck. It consisted of a few cauldrons for cooking fish and rice, and two perpetually bubbling barrels of tea. Sanitary facilities were mostly imaginative.

The Maya was part of Japan's numerically large war-impressed fleet of coastal vessels and fishing boats. As Allied aerial and submarine warfare claims heavier shipping, Japanese replacements are hundreds of hastily-constructed small vessels. They hope that numbers, rather than tonnage, will hold their empire together.

The freighter-transport is the key to this fleet in miniature, for it is vital in military movements. Before striking farther northwestward, MacArthur's airmen are lashing at the ships which might carry reinforcements.

Magdalene Engel Dies Following Second Stroke

Mrs. Magdalene Engel died in a Salem hospital Monday, victim of a second stroke within less than three months.

Born in Austria, Magdalene Eckert was there married to Peter Engel and with him came to Canada and, after 27 years in that country, to Salem, where Engel died shortly.

A member of St. Vincent de Paul Catholic church and of its altar society, Mrs. Engel for five years had cared for the church's altars.

Survivors include one son, Adam Engel, Salem; a daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth Honig of Canada; nine grandchildren and three great grandchildren. A second daughter, Kathleen Engel Mortenson, with whom Mrs. Engel had made her home, died five years ago.

Funeral arrangements, in the care of the W. T. Rigdon company, had not been completed Monday night.

McCannels Visit in Silverton Community

SILVERTON—Dr. and Mrs. A. J. McCannel have been here for the past few days looking after their property.

Since the beginning of the war, they have been in Chiloquin where he has been government doctor on the Indian reservation besides having a private practice. They stopped in Redmond on the way to Silverton.

Well, It Was Cheaper Than an Ambulance

EUGENE, Aug. 28.—(AP)—After a rattlesnake bit him, Harry Coleman, Coburg, made an incision in his finger, applied a tourniquet to his arm, then drove a mile for help.

Hospital authorities here reported today he was doing well.

Pulp Supply Will Depend On Ingenuity

SEATTLE, Aug. 28.—With prospects for continued shortage of manpower and truck tires for the logging industry, the consensus expressed at a west coast pulp-wood industry advisory committee meeting here today was that maintenance of the west coast pulp-wood supply will have to depend on ingenuity of the operators.

Tires and workmen were cited as the main bottlenecks to log production, and war production board and manpower officials said they could not promise relief in either category.

James L. Madden, deputy director of the WPB's paper division,

reported that emergency labor, such as farmers and war prisoners, had aided the pulp situation in sections of the country where small, short sticks are used. But such labor is not practicable for use on the large logs produced in the west, it was explained.

Madden said, "The west coast pulp mills are to be congratulated on their resourcefulness and ingenuity in increasing their production and inventory with less manpower than they had a year ago."

Fire Destroys Eugene Flax Spinning Mill

EUGENE, Ore., Aug. 28.—(AP)—Fire that destroyed the Approved Flax company's spinning mill near here today caused loss estimated by officials at \$200,000. The blaze apparently started in a scutching machine.

Customer Is Always Right

ST. LOUIS, Aug. 28.—(AP)—A waitress was fined \$25 in city court today because she threw four soft-boiled eggs at a customer—and hit him every time.

Charles W. Ude, the customer, testified he ordered three eggs but was served four by Miss Inez Bock.

In an argument which ensued, Ude testified the waitress told him he could eat elsewhere, and that when he started to leave, Miss Bock started to throw.

The waitress, who filed cross charges of peace disturbance, said Ude used abusive language which prompted her to throw the eggs. Charges against Ude were dismissed.

Water and Gas Concern Separates Holdings

MARSHFIELD, Aug. 28.—(AP)—Stockholders of the Peoples' Water and Gas corporation in Marshfield and North Bend have organized the Coox Bay Water corporation to separate the corporation's water plant from its other holdings, it was announced today.

A movement is under way in the Coox Bay area to organize a water district to take over the water utility if approved in the November election.

OPA to Reconsider Easing Lamb Rationing

PORTLAND, Aug. 28.—(AP)—Admitting that the lamb situation in this state "was not well handled," OPA Administrator Chester Bowles said his office would

reconsider a lamb rationing holiday to relieve marketing problems.

"I'll be more glad to get rid of regulations than anybody in the United States," the OPA head added at a brief conference here Sunday.

Two Confess Cashing \$30,000 Bad Checks

PORTLAND, Aug. 28.—(AP)—Gladys Kay Wheelton, 27, Monroe, Wash., and Marion Miller Stinson, 28, Seattle, have confessed to cashing \$30,000 in worthless checks in 40 states, police identification expert Louis L. Morton said today.

Morton quoted Stinson as saying the couple started a 40,000-mile tour, lasting six months, in Seattle and continued cross country on black market gasoline. They were arrested here Saturday.

Pendleton Family Visits in Dallas

DALLAS, Aug. 28.—Dr. and Mrs. G. L. McBee of Pendleton, and their children, John and Mary, are at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. H. McBee, in the Liberty district. They went on to Taft for some ocean fishing. Dr. McBee is on a two weeks' vacation.

Anaconda Family Visits At Mt. Angel

MT. ANGEL—Mr. and Mrs. Pat Connors of Anaconda, Mont., visited at the Albin Bean home for the past week. Mr. and Mrs. Bean and their guests also made a trip to the coast. Connors is a former Mt. Angel college student and a classmate of Bean.

Dewey Speeds Preparations For Campaign

PAWLING, N. Y., Aug. 28.—(AP)—Stepping up the pace of his political speechwriting, Gov. Thomas E. Dewey today secluded himself with his secretarial staff at his country home near here and went quietly forward with the work of documenting his campaign, which opens in Philadelphia Sept. 7.

Dewey was kept advised during the day of the progress of his foreign policy advisor, John Foster Dulles, who is recuperating in a New Haven, Conn., hospital from an operation to relieve a foot infection.

The governor's aides said he would not attempt to see Dulles at the hospital and that a conference between the two had been deferred indefinitely. Dewey has received a full telephonic report of Dulles' conversations with Secretary of State Hull in Washington last week.

Nine republican governors are scheduled to lay down the opening barrage of regular political broadcasts this week.

The third broadcast, Republican National Chairman Herbert Brownell, jr., said in New York, will include Governors Leverett Saltonstall of Massachusetts, Harry F. Kelly of Michigan, and Arthur B. Langlie of Washington.

Talkative Bus Riders Harming War Effort

PORTLAND, Aug. 28.—(AP)—Riders on buses and streetcars unloose "enough conversational dynamite" each day to change the outcome of the war, an army intelligence personnel representative said here today.

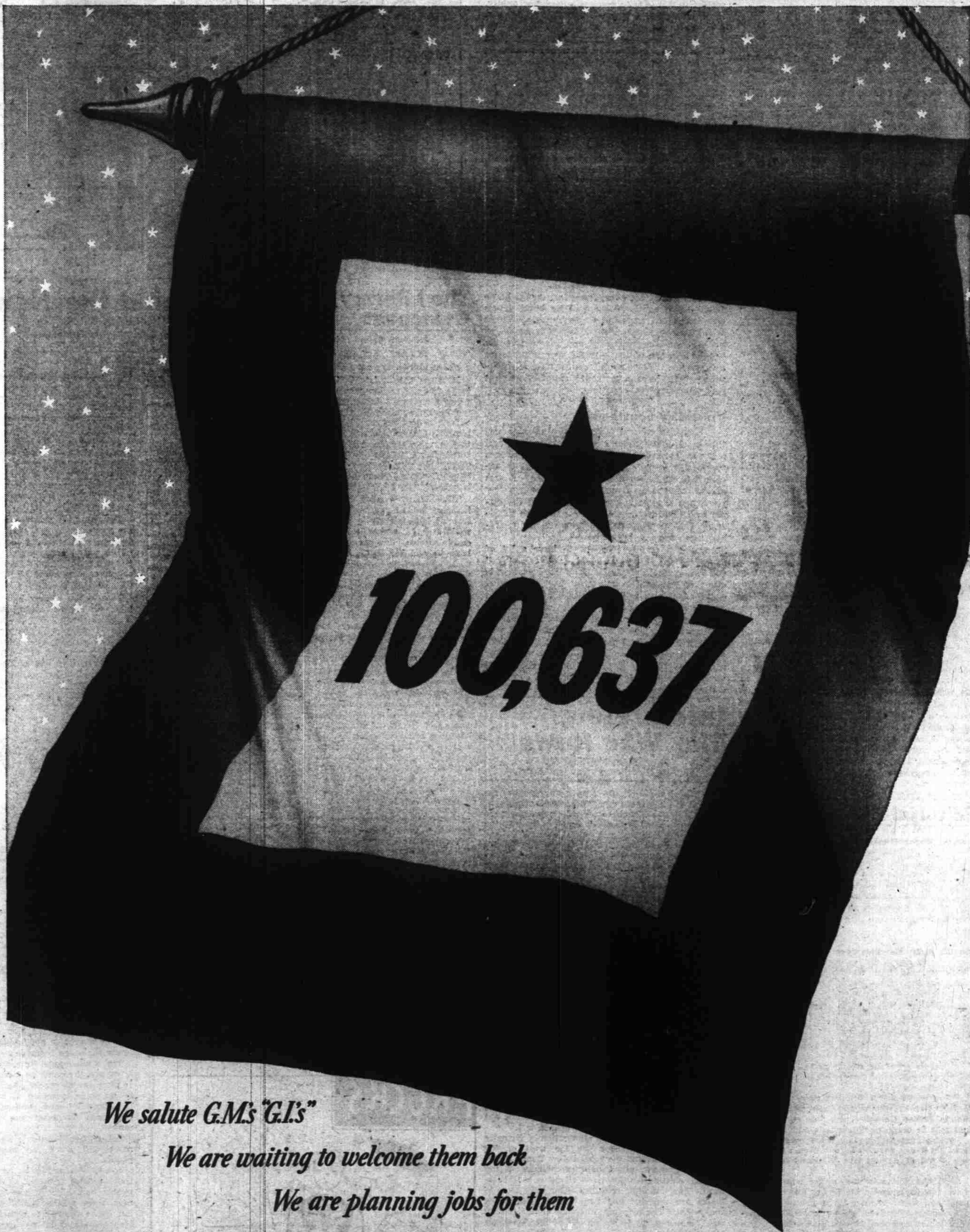
Maj. Albert J. Stowe told chamber of commerce members that talkative Americans must, for the duration, reverse their democratic habit of frank utterance.

Mrs. Harry Riches Ill At Silverton Home

SILVERTON—Mrs. Harry Riches, who became ill over a month ago from giant hives, remains about the same. She is continuously under the care of a doctor, and her two sons, Raymond and Jack, are spending the summer with their aunts, Winifred and Lois Riches in Waldo Hills. Capt. Harry Riches, former Marion county agent, is still in Italy.

Sen. Claude Pepper To Appear in Portland

PORTLAND, Aug. 28.—(AP)—A democratic rally here September 10 will feature Sen. Claude Pepper (D-Fla.), party leaders said today.



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