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Great Sea-Air Battle Raging in Solomons

Bean and Hop Growers Call For More Help

Hundreds of Pickers Needed to Harvest Crops—High Wages Made

While the response to appeals for bean and hop pickers has been "good," there is still room for hundreds of persons in the central Willamette valley district, W. H. Bailie, manager of the local U. S. employment service reported today. Between 22 and 24 bus loads of harvesters left the city early this morning while hundreds of others went to the fields in private conveyances.

One large hop yard in the Independence section has put its large stationary picking machine in operation, with a crew almost exclusively of women. Hop yards are still confronted with a shortage of field hands largely brought about by larger wages being paid in other lines of endeavor.

Platoon System
The platoon system of picking beans is working out well, it was stated at the employment office, with rivalry between the various groups resulting in quantities of beans being brought into the processing plants.

The platoon directed by Florence Kron not only has turned out the greatest poundage but one member of the crew has established a record which is expected to remain intact "for the duration." Kenneth Free, a 15-year-old youth, picked more than 400 pounds each day for a three day period. He picked 411 pounds the first day, 404 the second and 414 the third. His total earnings for the three days were \$24.58.

Records of Girls
Kay Anderson, 10-year-old girl, the youngest in the Kron platoon, picked 229 pounds in two days. Other three day totals for the Kron platoon include: Richard Gatke, 1012; Betty Lou Edwards, 729; Virginia Huston, 760; Wayne Houser, 882.

The platoon under the leadership of Gladys Humphreys has done exceptional work, some of the totals being: Bob Jones, 853; Charlotte Mathis, 790; LaVonne Mathis, 706; Carol Miller, 632; Warren Wong, 12-year-old Chinese lad, harvested 624 pounds in three days.

None of these mentioned in the two platoons is over 15 years of age. They are transported by bus to and from the bean yards and average between eight and nine hours daily in actual picking.

Peruvian Cities Devastated by Quake

Lima, Peru, Aug. 25 (AP)—A series of earth tremors killed at least 11 persons in southern Peru last night, caused great damage in the town of Nazca and sent thousands of Lima residents pouring into the streets, fearful of a repetition of the disastrous 1940 earthquake, incomplete advices from the stricken areas said today.

Police at Nazca, a town of 10,000 persons, said that at least one-third of the buildings there, including the police station and the principal church, collapsed.

Soldiers Irked by Cigarette Price

At a United States Army Camp in the Egyptian Desert, Aug. 25 (AP)—Sand flies, desert sores, the high price of beer—these are only routine complaints of the United States troops here. What has them annoyed more than the desert sun is the cigarette situation. Their reason: They have to pay 22 cents a pack for cigarettes marked "compliments of smokes for Yanks."

Repatriated Americans Land At Jersey City

Ambassador Grew, Diplomats, Newsmen and Others Arrive from East

Jersey City, N. J., Aug. 25 (AP)—With a fervid expression of happiness to be once again upon the soil of his "beloved country," veteran ambassador to Tokyo Joseph C. Grew stepped ashore from the diplomatic exchange liner Gripsholm today at the head of a procession of 1,451 Americans repatriated from Japan and the Orient.

The tall, impeccable diplomat, whose bushy gray eyebrows and gray hair matched his gray suit, fingered his glasses nervously as he told reporters in a prepared statement how he had awaited the moment of his return to America with "inexpressible anticipation."

Happy to be Back
For the various diplomats and consular officials whose senior he is, the 62-year-old Grew said all were happy to return and expected to use their "maximum efforts in winning the war."

The Gripsholm, which arrived at her pier at 9 a. m. brought the first Americans from the Orient since the war began.

Grew, who had been ambassador to Tokyo since 1932, was besieged by newsmen as he stepped from a limousine which brought him from the ship's gangplank to the dock entrance. He left the ship a little less than two hours after the vessel docked.

Mrs. Grew had disembarked from the exchange ship earlier this month at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, where her daughter is a resident.

All Are Quizzed
After he left the ship, the long process of disembarking the other passengers began, all of whom were to be subjected to close questioning in line with Attorney General Francis Biddle's declaration that the government would be extremely careful not to permit any enemy spies to reach this country.

The process of examining the returning nationals was expected to require possibly several days.

Grew said that only when his compatriots still in the territory he had left had returned to their homeland would "our cup of happiness be full."

To Help Win War
"I can add only this," he said, "we have come home to contribute our maximum efforts to the winning of the war, in whatever way we may find or to carry out whatever part we may be called upon to take."

"We shall win through, with our national spirit and determination without any shadow of a doubt," he said.

Jap Internees Suffer From Lack of Food

Aboard S. S. Gripsholm, Aug. 25 (AP)—Food! This item, which towered above anything else in importance to 350 Americans during their six months internment at Hongkong, continues to be the leading problem of some 2,500 Britons and Netherlands still behind barbed wire there and is everybody else's chief worry in the former British crown colony.

Increasing hardship, physical and mental, altogether seems to be in store for the million or so residents marooned by war. In the Chinese areas deaths from want of food or from disease caused by insanitation are appallingly common.



Joseph C. Grew, former U. S. ambassador to Japan.

Fire Destroys Dufur Buildings

The Dalles, Ore., Aug. 25 (AP)—One-third of Dufur's business district was destroyed by fire early this morning starting at 1:20 in a vacant pool hall, believed to have been started from flames left by children who had been playing with matches in the building.

The Odd Fellows hall, a vacant theatre building, the Dufur garage and machine shop, the Dufur Dispatch building and two homes burned, in addition to a number of sheds and outbuildings.

The Dalles fire department, called within 10 minutes after the fire had been discovered, arrived at 2:15 a. m. and aided the Maupin, Tygh Valley and Dufur departments in fighting the flames. Blazing embers that flew half a mile ignited the Garfield Hudson home and burned it to the ground. The A. B. Fralley home also was destroyed.

Japs Withdraw Forces in China

(By the Associated Press)
Chinese dispatches said that Japan's invasion armies were withdrawing from China east coast provinces to prepare "another thrust" elsewhere—possibly an attack on Russian Siberia, India or Australia.

In Chungking, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek's war capital, informed quarters agreed that some big-scale revision of Japanese plans had prompted the enemy to yield hard-won territory in Chekiang and Kiangsi provinces.

A Chinese army spokesman said the Japanese were withdrawing between 50,000 and 60,000 troops from the two provinces—about half the original invasion force—and abandoning city after city to Gen. Chiang's armies.

The Chinese high command said Lishui, important base from which Japan might be bombed, was under direct attack and that the Japanese defenders had been driven inside that city.

Churchill in Conference with War Cabinet

Results of Talk With Stalin and Agreement on Second Front Discussed

London, August 25 (AP)—Prime Minister Churchill conferred with war cabinet members today on the results of his talk with Joseph Stalin and his visits to vital war bases in Egypt and Iran while Britain waited impatiently for signs of an allied plan designed to relieve the pressure on the soviet.

The feeling that spectacular developments soon may follow the prime minister's return grew among Britons with the disclosure that he had visited Iran and Iraq as well as Egypt during his three-week flight.

To Aid Rumanians
Those visits both brought quick, unforeseen consequences—the establishment of a separate military command for the Iraq-Iran area and the assignment of General Sir Harold Alexander to succeed General Sir Claude Auchinleck as commander in chief of the middle east.

The questions British editorialists asked were when and where allied power could explode to help lift the burden from the red army and whether time was being lost in making it effective in disorganizing the axis timetable of conquest.

Rumblings suggestive of a critical new campaign in north Africa and the day-and-night bombardments in western Europe by United States army bombers and the RAF both were taken as clues to the secret plans the smiling, joking prime minister was assured to have brought back from his talks with Premier Stalin.

Second Visit to Egypt
It was disclosed today that Churchill paid a second visit to Egypt on his return trip from Moscow and he also visited Iran and Iraq, where a new British command has been announced.

British observers noted that one of the first to greet Churchill in London last night was a Vice Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, the command chief who is preparing to report on the Di-epe super-raid which tested the possibilities of a continental bridgehead.

"Mr. Stalin and I have exchanged views which will be of utmost value to the allied cause," the Daily Express quoted.

RAF Smashes At Frankfurt
London, Aug. 25 (AP)—A "strong force" of RAF bombers smashed at Frankfurt and Wiesbaden and other objectives in the upper Rhineland last night in the first RAF night attack on Germany in a week, the air ministry said today.

The exact strength of the force sent over Germany was not disclosed, but the announced loss of 16 planes indicated that some 300 planes took part, on the basis of a 5 per cent loss. However, bad weather over the continent last night may have contributed to the losses.

Frankfurt is on the main river, 22 miles from its confluence with the Rhine at Mainz, and is an important German commercial and industrial center.

Machinery, electrical supplies and chemicals are its most important products.

Wiesbaden is best known as a fashionable "Spa," but it is also a manufacturing city of some importance and a communications center.



Brazil Decides on War—President Getulio Vargas (up-raised hand), spoke from the palace balcony at Rio De Janeiro on the eve of the declaration of war to tell a huge Brazilian throng the nation would "react" to unprovoked attacks on Brazilian ships by axis U-boats. His daughter, Alzira (left), and his wife (hand on chin), listened to the speech as did serious-faced aides. (Associated Press Photo.)

Brazil Prepares War Measures

Rio De Janeiro, Aug. 25 (AP)—President Getulio Vargas summoned his war cabinet today to plan more drastic economic measures against the axis and to provide for the training and equipment of thousands of army recruits.

The cabinet will meet within the next few days, and it was understood that meetings will be held at regular intervals until the axis is smashed.

Reports circulated that three more axis submarines had been sunk by Brazilian, British and United States planes off the south coast of Brazil, but they were not confirmed by official quarters.

The submarine menace had not been ended, however, by the relentless hunt that has been carried on the past 10 days.

The National Petroleum council announced that the United States Tanker Louisiana of 8567 tons had been sunk. It was reported to have gone down last Thursday night, about 600 miles northeast of Rio De Janeiro.

The government was greatly encouraged by the fact that six South American republics—Paraguay, Argentina, Chile, Bolivia, Uruguay, and Peru—had declared Brazil a non-belligerent. Under this status, Brazilian ships may use their ports as long as and as freely as they wish, and economic restrictions imposed against nations considered belligerents are not applied.

Huns Winter Clothing
Budapest (from German broadcasts) Aug. 25 (AP)—The collection of winter clothing for Hungarian troops fighting in Russia was started today by the press and the press urgently appealed for contributions.

"I found the same determination and confidence in the outcome of the war among the Russians as I did on my trip with Lord Beaverbrook last year," he asserted.

German Warship Sunk Off Flushing

London, Aug. 25 (AP)—A German anti-aircraft ship was "almost certainly sunk" in a lively engagement between four German vessels of that type and British light naval forces off Flushing, The Netherlands, last night, the admiralty announced today.

The British suffered no casualties and all their vessels returned safely to port, a communique said.

The other three German ships were heavily engaged with gunfire and it is considered that damage and casualties were inflicted on them," the admiralty said.

Million Nazi Troops Menace Stalingrad

Tanks, Dive-bombers and Parachutists Descend in Don and Caucasus Area

By Eddy Gilmore
Moscow, Aug. 25 (AP)—More than 1,000,000 strong, the Nazi army in southern Russia tonight had driven to within less than 40 miles of Stalingrad and 170 miles from the Caspian Sea.

Stalingrad's peril appeared to be growing greater hour by hour as the invaders drove northeastward from the region of Kotelnikowski while huge tank forces which had crossed to the eastern bank of the Don river came from the northwest.

Dive bombers swarmed through the skies and parachutists descended in both the Don and the Caucasus areas with anti-tank guns and motorcycles to menace further the red army positions.

100 Nazi Divisions
The German forces were estimated by the Russians as between 80 and 100 divisions, composed of from 9,000 to 20,000 men each.

A front line dispatch to Comsomol Pravda, official paper of the young communist organization, said the Germans had been able to concentrate large masses of men and machines across the Don.

It said the Nazis brought up reserves during the night and attacked at dawn, tanks being followed by men with automatic rifles while planes rained down "many tons of bombs."

Night Fighting
The first wave was turned back, but a half hour later more bombers appeared and another charge began. In hard hand-to-hand fighting, the red army stuck to its trenches and refused to break, this dispatch declared.

Night fighting in that sector was featured by rocket and tracer bullets streaking across the sky while German siren bombs screamed.

An account to Pravda, communist party paper, said the parachutists at one place landed in sufficient strength to permit their transport planes to alight on an air field and unload anti-tank guns, motorcycles and trench-mortars.

In the Caucasus
The invaders also have driven to the Prokhladnenski area 85 miles northeast of the oil town of Grozny, but 200 men of a Nazi mountain detachment were killed there and an attack in "many times greater" strength was repulsed, the information bureau said.

Although the Germans were throwing in large forces less than 40 miles from Stalingrad, life in that industrial center was (Concluded on Page 3, Column 6)

6 Jap Warships Blasted by U.S. In Initial Attack

Nipponese Stage Major Counter Offensive to Recapture Lost Bases

Washington, Aug. 25 (AP)—United States forces fought a mighty sea and air battle today against strong Japanese forces seeking to regain control of the Solomon Islands and wipe out gains of America's first land offensive of the Pacific war.

Already, said a navy communique, American fliers have bombed effectively more than half a dozen of the enemy's ships, including two carriers and a battleship.

At the outset of the still-continuing engagement in the south Pacific, the navy said 21 Japanese planes were shot down by American fighters who suffered only minor losses themselves.

Life Line Control
Hinging on the outcome of the Japanese counter-attack against hard-won American footholds in the Solomons was control of strategic points which cover supply lines to Australia and provide a springboard for still further offensives against Japan's distended empire.

The battle began developing on the afternoon of August 23 and already army and navy carrier-based planes have effectively bombed two Japanese carriers, one battleship, one transport, one cruiser, and an unspecified number of other cruisers which the navy described as "several."

Ships Left Burning
The transport and one cruiser were left burning fiercely after an aircraft attack on them north of Guadalcanal August 24.

The main action of the battle, the navy communique indicated, is currently in progress and the navy said that it was "a large scale battle" between American sea and air forces and a strong Japanese striking force which has approached the southeastern group of the Solomon Islands from a northeast direction.

Army and navy units backing up the American marines in the Solomons had expected a violent attempt by the Japanese to recapture their lost bases in the Tulagi area, and so, the navy said, apparently were fully prepared to meet it.

On this point the navy said succinctly, "this counter-attack (Concluded on Page 3, Column 1)

Japs Lose Planes In New Guinea

Gen. MacArthur's Headquarters, Australia, Aug. 25 (AP)—Gen. Douglas MacArthur's fighter plane corps, attacking an enemy formation of 13 Zero fighters, over eastern New Guinea yesterday, downed four of them without loss for a two-day allied score of 17 to 0.

Others of the Japanese fleet were hit and damaged, and some of them may have crashed on the way to base. The single allied plane that was damaged landed safely.

In addition, allied reconnaissance bombing planes, which two enemy zeros unwisely attacked over the Rabaul area of New Britain Island, set fire to one of the Japanese craft and probably destroyed it, Gen. Douglas MacArthur said in a communique.

The Japanese made a weak attempt to follow up their disastrous Sunday raid on Darwin, the allied North Australian base. Three of their planes flew over by night, but so extreme was their caution that they dropped their bombs in a swamp and fled. Of the 47 enemy planes which had raided Darwin Sunday at least 13 and probably 15 were downed and others were damaged so severely that they might have crashed.

Raider Battalions Of Marines Fighting

Washington, Aug. 25 (AP)—Heavily armed and highly trained marines, organized into "raider battalions," are battling the Japanese in the Solomon Islands and carried out the August 17 attack on Japanese-held Makin.

This announcement today by the marine corps was the first official disclosure of the existence of the marine raiders whose equipment and training methods have been closely guarded secrets against the time when they would go into action.

Their first known attack of these specially-trained devildogs was in the Solomons offensive beginning August 7. Their second was in their own show at Makin, the Gilbert Island group, Major James Roosevelt, son of the president, was second in command in the Makin attack which damaged installations and killed Japanese defenders.