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Thirty-sixth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1941.

NO. 228.

JAP INVADERS OF LUZON WIPED OUT

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon

Washington, Dec. 13.—It is said the small investors were the ones who got flustered and sold their stocks, sending the market into a tailspin at the outset of the war. The larger and wiser investors (banks and insurance companies) held on. They well knew that if this country is going to win this war—and who doubts it—the investments they had, were just as good as any they could get.

It seems, however, a great many people, upset by the shock of war cannot see the woods for looking at certain falling or leaning trees.

Certainly, taxes are going higher. Surely, some lines of business are suffering. Autos, for instance, may not maintain their recent profits during a change-over to defense armaments. But their earnings will be restored later when they get going in their new line, and after the war they will have a bigger world market than they ever dreamed of in the past. (So also with all our business in some degree). Public utilities may suffer from costs rising against fixed rate limitations. Little business will be squeezed.

BUT look at the woods as a whole. Taxes are not going to be raised to the point of con-

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RAILROADS SEEK BOOST IN RATES

Washington, Dec. 13.—(AP)—The nation's railroads asked permission today to increase freight and passenger rates to bring in an estimated \$356,956,000 annually, telling the Interstate Commerce commission additional revenue was needed to offset from recent wage increases and other causes.

The carriers asked the commission to act "promptly" and Chairman Joseph B. Eastman told reporters the commission would meet Monday to consider procedure. He declined, however, to predict how long it might be before the commission made its decision, but other informed sources called three to four months a reasonable guess.

TOOTHLESS YOUTH ASKS F.R.'S HELP

Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 13.—(AP)—James McElveen, 18, who has never grown a tooth, asked President Roosevelt today for help in joining the marines.

A Postal Telegraph messenger, McElveen wired: "I would like very much to join the U. S. marines, but have never grown any teeth. I am in good condition in every other way, but they will not let me in. I can eat as good as any body with a good set of teeth. Please wire back collect if you can help me."

BOMB SHELTER IS ONLY SHORT ROOF

Cincinnati, Dec. 13.—(AP)—When Dr. Carroll De Courcy made plans for a new home last summer, he decided he might as well put a bomb shelter in while he was at it.

So while the rest of the house went up, workmen poured concrete walls for the shelter adjoining. It needed a good strong roof of steel-reinforced concrete. But the Office of Production Management had other uses for the materials and now Dr. De Courcy has a roofless bomb shelter.

MANILA SUFFERS WORST BOMBINGS; FEAR GUAM LOST

Capture No Surprise—Wake And Midway Resist—Battle Continues.

Manila, Sunday, Dec. 14.—(AP)—The Philippine army wiped out Japanese forces which had gained a foothold on western Luzon island Saturday and American fliers smashed hard at a Japanese bombing attack on Manila—the war's worst on the Philippine capital—in which at least 75 persons were killed and 300 wounded.

A check-up today showed that a three-mile residential area near Nichols airfield was wrecked, although the American air fighters and strong anti-aircraft defenses forced the Japanese attackers, flying in tight formation, to undershoot and overshoot their target.

From the mountains of north central Luzon a civilian eyewitness returned to Manila with the first story of the landing of parachute troops, declaring that Filipino soldiers wiped out hundreds of Japanese paratroopers and land troops on Thursday in hand-to-hand fighting which lasted several hours.

An army spokesman said at 7:55 a. m. today (6:55 p. m. EST Saturday) that operations were proceeding against the Japanese at each of their three Luzon landing points—in the region of Aparri, in the north, Viagan, in the northwest, and Legaspi in the southeast.

"There is no change in the situation," he added. The night passed without incident throughout the archipelago, he said, except for a bombless air raid alarm here from 5:20 a. m. to 6:15 a. m.

Ground troops were credited officially with having disposed of the Japanese force which had landed in the Lingayen area some 110 miles north of Manila, within striking distance of the capital. Lingayen is a port at the head of Lingayen gulf, the most sheltered spot on the west side of Luzon with the exception of Manila bay itself.

Washington, Dec. 13.—(AP)—The United States probably has lost the island of Guam to invading Japanese, it was announced today.

The sombre announcement from the navy department that Guam, 1,600 miles southeast of Tokyo, was out of communication with the department and probably captured came as no surprise.

The president had said earlier in the week that the public must be prepared for the fall of the little, 30-mile long island, which lay virtually without fortification in the midst of Japanese-mandated islands east of the Philippines.

The terse communication about the fate of the island said:

"The navy department announced that it is unable to communicate with Guam either by radio or cable. The capture of the island is probable. A small force of less than 400 naval personnel and 155 marines were stationed in Guam. According to the last reports from Guam, the island had been bombed repeatedly and Japanese troops had landed at several points on the island."

"Wake and Midway continue to resist. The above is based on reports until 9 a. m. today."

It was feared that a large number of civilian construction workers may have been captured on the island. They had been engaged in building sea-plane facilities for which congress had granted funds.

FIRST LADY LANDS

Portland, Dec. 13.—(AP)—Oregon's civilian defense preparations are far ahead of those of most states. Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt told leaders of city and state defense activities here yesterday.

Washington, Dec. 13.—(AP)—The navy department announced today that all its recruiting stations would remain open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to accommodate those seeking to join the navy.

The War in the Islands



The sinking of a 20,000-ton Japanese warship off the coast of Luzon (1), and the landing of paratroopers at Iloilo, south of Aparri, were reported. The army in the Philippines said that mopping up operations repelled Japanese forces at Lingayen (2).

CAMP BUILDING REPORT VERIFIED; DATE DUE SOON NO AIR DETECTOR THOMAS CHARGES PEARL HARBOR HAD

Publication Friday of the declaration by Lieut.-Col. Harold D. Stetson, assistant construction quartermaster of the ninth corps area, that approval had been received from Washington for construction of three major cantonments in the west—Marysville, Cal., and Medford and Corvallis, Ore.—brought forth a flood of conflicting rumors here.

Criticism of the story became so numerous Saturday that the Mail Tribune asked the Associated Press to check with Lieut.-Col. Stetson in San Francisco as to whether he had been correctly quoted. The officer, the Associated Press later informed the Mail Tribune, not only verified the dispatch but added that although date for start of work had not yet been set, it was expected early this week. He also pointed out that congress has to appropriate money for the construction before activation of the work. Supplying of the money was considered a foregone conclusion in view of swift action by congress on appropriations needed to provide the sinews of war.

The Mail Tribune throughout the cantonment effort has tried to be strictly factual in reporting prospects of obtaining the giant project. In line with this policy, Friday's story was published as a pronouncement from a high officer in the construction quartermaster's office. The dispatch was given prominence by other newspapers in the area affected. The Corvallis Times Gazette publishing an extra, as the news came too late for the regular Friday edition of that newspaper.

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COPS CHASE EACH OTHER IN ERROR

Chehalis, Wash., Dec. 13.—(AP)—State Patrolman George Cobb, racing 80 miles an hour through a blackout, was unable to catch a speeding car. He radioed the next patrol officer to nab the speeder.

As he was giving the license number, patrolman Ted Bishop broke in: "That's me you are chasing. Lay off."

Bishop was leading an air corps officer, called back to duty in California.

MOSCOW REPORT COMPLETE DEFEAT OF NAZI HORDES

Germans Flee Caucasus As British Win In Libya—Red Workers Rejoice.

(By Associated Press) London, Dec. 13.—News of Hitler's defeat north and south of Moscow set off numerous demonstrations of rejoicing in the Red capital today as Russia's winter army continued to pound at the heels of retreating Germans and loosed a new drive to hurl back looping Nazi lines which long had threatened the complete encirclement of Leningrad.

(By Associated Press) London, Sunday, Dec. 14.—The United States, British, Russia, China and The Netherlands are expected to sign a joint declaration of solidarity against the axis with a solemn pledge of no separate peace, high London quarters said today.

Apparently inspired report of the prospective pact brought this comment from an authoritative informant: "It is very intelligent speculation—something which is certain to come sooner or later. But it's bound to take considerable time; the democracies at present are pretty busy fighting battles."

Coordination of military, political and economic activities already are under discussion, it was understood with plans for allocation of military forces and supplies where they can best be used.

One major move in the direction of military coordination will be to concentrate on attaining air supremacy in the fight to master the axis.

Britain announced that strong RAF reinforcements are being sent immediately to Malaya in the fight with Japan, and to the middle east in the Mediterranean front with Germany and Italy.

Strategists here, surveying the first attack of the Pacific war, pointed out that Japan's extensive use of aircraft to attack the defenders' Pacific fleets and to cover her widespread land and sea offensive heavily underscored the importance of coordinating operations with the air arm in modern war.

The obvious counter to early Japanese successes, it was pointed out, is to blanket Japan's air force.

In the fight to save the Caucasus, the Russians were hammering away at retreating nazis trying to reform a line along the Mius river. Soviet reports said in several places nazis had crossed the river and threatened the newly-erected German pillboxes with flank attacks.

On the Libyan desert the war went almost equally badly for the Germans. British reports indicated General Erwin Rommel's forces had been seriously cut up, with isolated groups defending at spots along the Egyptian border while the main fighting swept far to the west. The main British force, with New Zealanders in the van, was reported advancing to the west of the beleaguered axis stronghold of Gazala, under British attack.

LAST COULEE DAM CONCRETE POURED

Grand Coulee, Wash., Dec. 13.—(AP)—The "Big Rock" is built. The last bucket of concrete was poured at Grand Coulee dam yesterday, completing the physical features of the most massive man-made structure in the world, the Bureau of Reclamation reported today.

The last soupy mixture of cement, sand and gravel was added to the Columbia river barrier just six years and two weeks after former Governor Clarence D. Martin dumped the first bucket of concrete November 28, 1935.

And the last bucket was tipped almost directly above the site of that ceremony, now buried under more than 500 feet of man-made rock.

FARMERS PLEDGE AID

Pullman, Dec. 13.—(AP)—Seventy thousand Washington farmers have pledged themselves to do their utmost to increase the production of vital foodstuffs in 1942. Chairman Henry B. Ramsey of the state defense board, U. S. Department of Agriculture, said today.

SOLIDARITY PACT BY ALLIES HELD EARLY PROSPECT

No Separate Peace Pledge Seen By London Sources—Aid To Malaya.

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JAPAN PAVILION AT FAIR WRECKED

New York, Dec. 13.—(AP)—Demolition of the Japanese World's Fair pavilion, the last of foreign buildings to escape the wreckers, was started by the park department without mentioning the war. Japanese officials had asked the city to allow the pavilion to stand "as a permanent structure symbolizing good will between the two nations."

HUNGARY NOW AT WAR WITH NATION

Washington, Dec. 13.—(AP)—The Hungarian government informed the United States today it considered a state of war to exist between Hungary and the United States.

War Bulletins

Midland, Tex., Dec. 13.—(AP)—Secretary Knox, en route to Washington after a quick trip to Honolulu, arrived in a fast navy plane tonight for an overnight stop. He declined comment on the war.

Manila, P. I., Sunday, Dec. 14.—(AP)—Hundreds of Japanese paratroopers and land troops were wiped out in several hours of hand-to-hand fighting with Filipino soldiers in the mountains of north central Luzon island on Thursday, an eyewitness told reporters today.

New York, Dec. 13.—(AP)—The British radio reported that Rangoon, Burma capital and port terminus of the Burma road into China, had its first air raid today but said that 27 attacking Japanese planes fled upon encountering RAF interceptors.

The BBC said Tenasserim, in southern Burma, was twice attacked but that casualties and damage were slight. The broadcast was heard here by NBC.

Washington, Dec. 13.—(AP)—Navy department announced today that a fishing vessel of U. S. registry operating off the west coast of Costa Rica had been boarded and found to have seven Japanese in the crew. They were taken into custody. The vessel was said to have been loaded with ten thousand gallons of diesel oil.

Chungking, China, Dec. 13.—(AP)—Chinese planes and troops moved today against the rear of the Japanese forces attacking Hongkong in what promised to be a full-scale offensive aimed at recapturing occupied Chinese territory and relieving the pressure on the British.

Tokyo, Sunday, Dec. 14.—(official radio received by AP)—The navy section of the Japanese imperial headquarters announced today that a Japanese destroyer sank an American submarine off the Philippine islands yesterday.

The army section of imperial headquarters announced army planes yesterday carried out mass raids on bases in Burma and Malaya and inflicted severe damage.

MARKETING QUOTA FOR SPUDS ASKED

Salt Lake City, Dec. 13.—(AP)—Representatives of western potato growers today endorsed in general provisions of a proposed federal measure which would set up marketing quotas.

Fred Northrup of Washington, D. C., assistant agricultural adjustment administrator, presided at the meeting which was the third of five to be held throughout the United States. Participants included growers from Washington, California, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado and Utah.

PORTLAND'S NO. 1 CITIZEN

Portland, Dec. 13.—(AP)—Mrs. Thomas D. Honeyman, member of the state public welfare commission and long-time social worker, was named Portland's first citizen of 1941 by the Portland Realty board today.

County Defense Council Instructions for Public

The Jackson County Council of Defense issues another of a series of statements to give the public official instructions regarding various phases of civilian defense. The council suggests that these daily statements be clipped out of the paper and saved for future reference and for comparison with any changes that might be made in the regulations from time to time. Any changes, the council said, will be referred by number to the corresponding statement to which it applies.

No. 4—AIR RAIDS

"The following precautions should be observed during air raids from the time of the air raid alarm until the all-clear signal has been given."

"If an air raid occurs during precautionary blackout periods, the usual procedure during precautionary blackouts will be observed after the all-clear signal following the air raid. Should the air raid occur after dusk and prior to precautionary blackout periods, the usual precautionary blackout rules should be observed following the air raid."

"1. During an air raid every person should remain indoors."

"2. All lights in residences and buildings must be turned out."

"3. All vehicular traffic must cease except emergency fire, police and first-aid cars. Automobiles should proceed to curb and extinguish light."

RUSS VIRTUALLY STANDS WITH U.S. LITVINOFF SAYS

Japan Held 'Common Enemy'—Congress Cheered By Words—No Rest For Hitler.

Washington, Dec. 13.—(AP)—Russia virtually took a stand with the United States in the war with Japan today when Maxim Litvinoff, Soviet ambassador, declared Nippon was "a common enemy" belonging to "the same bunch of axis gangsters."

But, in a formal statement on Russia's position and in answer to questions at a press conference, the ambassador carefully avoided making at this time any commitments concerning actual Soviet military operations in the far east.

And, when asked whether Russia would permit allied forces to fight on Russian territory, or permit the United States to use air bases in Siberia for attacks against Japan, he replied:

"That the Soviet Union 'would welcome help on any front in the common cause.'"

That he could make no answer in public concerning the question about the air bases.

Litvinoff's statement, despite its reservations, was received enthusiastically in congress.

Chairman Connally (D., Tex.) of the senate foreign relations committee hailed it as an indication of active Soviet support for the American war effort and proposed that the United States ask for use of Siberian bases from which its bombers and warships could "smother" Japan.

Senator Wheeler (D., Mont.) said he regarded the ambassador's statement as offering great hope of the possibility of obtaining these bases.

"Complete understanding exists, or will be arrived at," Litvinoff said, "in decisions concerning the sectors in which the great powers concentrate their strength, with the decisions to be made solely in the interests of the common cause."

That declaration was interpreted generally as meaning that Russia felt her greatest contribution to the defeat of the axis could be made by maintaining an offensive on the eastern front, with the possibility of war with Japan in the Pacific depending on eventualities.

"We are all in the same boat," the ambassador asserted, "and must crash, or triumph together over the greatest menace of our times—and we will triumph!"

Painting a word picture of Adolf Hitler as the great enemy of mankind, he emphasized that Hitler and Nazi Germany, were the powers that must be destroyed.

"Hitler's defeat on the eastern front," Litvinoff promised, "will seal his fate forever. He is the chief culprit of the present wars and the destruction of Hitler will mean the end of them all."

Declaring that Russia, after suffering initial defeats, had struck back powerfully and was already taking the offensive against German forces, the ambassador declared that "we have no intention of allowing Hitler to hibernate."

"The Soviet," he said, "will smash at Hitler until his monstrous war machine has been destroyed. We feel no one can do this for us or without us and we will fight to the end."

TRAFFIC NORMAL IN MOSCOW, WORD

Moscow, Dec. 13.—(AP)—A group of English and American newspaper correspondents, including Henry C. Cassidy, chief of the Associated Press Moscow bureau, paid a flying visit to the capital today from Kuibyshev, alternate Russian capital.

Traffic is normal and few buildings have been damaged, the correspondents said.