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Thirty-sixth Year

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AIR AND LAND FORCES REACH BURMA

News Behind The News

by Paul Mallon

Washington, Jan. 14.—The official lines of information from inside Germany fail to confirm the suggestions that Hitler's regime is about ready to crack.

Disputes apparently have arisen among the Nazi leaders, but there has always been personal competition and friction among them. Von Ribbentrop's foreign office, for instance, has as its experts on American affairs, Hans Diekhoff, former German ambassador to Washington and Ritter, former ambassador to Brazil. The army maintains its own American expert, Knip, former consul general at New York.

The foreign office, the ministry of information, the army and others have been scrapping among themselves, as usual, but largely in the way of competing for Hitler's favor (just as government departments here fight for the support of Roosevelt on various projects.)

Hitler encourages this by the way he works. When an important decision is to be made, he calls in his generals, admirals, departmental chiefs and lets them fight it out in front of him. He has been known to goad them to the point of fist fighting. Something like that happened when the decision to move into Russia was made. Many of his generals wanted to eliminate the reds before attacking England. Goering opposed this violently. He did not want to use up his air force in Russia—favored an all-out blow against England. After hearing the arguments, Hitler went off alone and made his decision.

The dismissal of General Von Brauchitsch also may have been over-emphasized in the outside world. Hitler's personal military strategist is General Jodl. He is always with Hitler. He planned the tactics of the campaigns. After the conquest of the Balkans he arranged the surrender of Yugoslavia and Greece for Hitler. He has not been replaced.

Recall of Von Bock from the front may mean that this leading offensive general is being fired, or it may mean he will suddenly reappear leading a new offensive for Hitler (as the British did with Wavell.) Shift-

(Continued on Page Four)

MAYORS TELL OF INFLATION FEARS

Washington, Jan. 14.—(AP)—The United States Conference of Mayors wound up its annual meeting today with adoption of a resolution saying the mayors were "greatly disturbed at the danger of inflation."

Their president, Mayor Fiorello H. La Guardia of New York, was directed to communicate this expression to senate and house conferees on price control legislation.

Radio Highlights

Programs tonight: The war and Pan-American conference—4 MBS; 4:15 NBC-Red; 5 MBS; 5:55 CBS; 7 MBS; 7:45 CBS; 8 CBS NBC-Red; 8:30 NBC-Red MBS; 9 NBC CBS; 9:55 NBC CBS.

MBS—6:15, Talk, Donald M. Nelson; 7:45, Dean Austin Padre on "Our Morale."

What to Expect Thursday: The war—5 a. m., NBC CBS Blue; 5:45 NBC; 5:55 Blue; 6 CBS; 7 MBS; 7:15 Blue MBS; 8 MBS; 9 CBS MBS; 10:45 NBC & Blue; 11 MBS; 12:55 p. m., CBS; 1 MBS; 1:45 CBS MBS; 1:45 CBS MBS; 3:25 NBC; 3:45 CBS Blue.

SIDE GLANCES

BY TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Irene Stedman just being so fearfully busy she simply couldn't stop to talk to an old friend.

BRITISH PREPARE TO ATTACK NIPPO FLANK IN MALAYA

Dutch Open Counter-Attacks, American Bombers Pepper Warships Off Oil Island.

Washington, Jan. 14.—(AP)—The army said today three American bombers, fighting with the Netherlands Indies forces, attacked a Japanese naval base near Tarakan, the vital oil island off northeast Borneo that has fallen to the enemy.

Full results of the attack are not known, a communique said, but two Japanese lighters were destroyed.

The American planes returned to their undisclosed base undamaged.

Rangoon, Burma, Jan. 14.—(AP)—Land and air reinforcements for the defense of Burma have arrived and more are on the way, it was announced tonight officially.

The new reinforcements will serve in the forces of Lieutenant General T. J. Hutton, former chief of the general staff of India, who was appointed last month as British officer commanding in Burma.

Defend Key Points Anti-aircraft batteries for Rangoon and other key points were reinforced and additional ground crews for air units were landed in Burmese airfields, some of them hidden in the jungle close to the frontier of Japanese-held Thailand, a communique said.

Fresh British and Indian troops equipped for instant action were regarded as a sign that Burma would become the base for an offensive against Japan's long and exposed western flank in Malaya.

Allied Command Arrives (By the Associated Press) Gen. Sir Archibald P. Wavell, commander in chief of the new allied far east command, has arrived in the Dutch East Indies and already launched a series of dynamic counter-blows against Japanese invasion forces, military dispatches said today.

Dutch troops were reported moving into action on the border of the "White Rajah" kingdom of Sarawak, where Japanese troops had seized the capital, Kuching, and most of the northern territory.

Gen. Wavell's second in command, Lieut.-Gen. George H. Brett, former chief of the U. S. army air corps, arrived at the same time to help direct strategy for the Indies' fighting defense.

New British Line Singapore, Jan. 14.—(AP)—British troops slowly withdrawing toward the narrowest part of the Malay peninsula left widespread destruction today in the path of Japanese forces pressing hard upon their heels.

Continuation of the British retreat was acknowledged last night in a communique which told of extensive demolition of facilities which might have been employed by the Japanese in their advance.

The bulletin failed to disclose the extent of the withdrawal from the positions which the British took up only two days ago north of Seremban in Negri Sembilan state, about 150 miles from Singapore.

But as the battlelines approached Singapore the front which the British are called upon to defend was being gradually shortened.

FARM MEETING FRIDAY Salem, Jan. 14.—(AP)—The agricultural committee of the state advisory council of the U. S. employment service will meet here Friday to discuss vital labor problems in connection with the 1942 harvest of Oregon's farm crops.

Boston, Jan. 14.—(AP)—U. S. Dept. Agr.—Domestic wool was receiving very little demand today in the Boston market.

Production Czar Plans Too Much, Too Soon, for War

U. S. Air Heroes Over Hawaii Get Decorations



Major General Frederick L. Martin pinned Distinguished Service Crosses on Second Lt. George S. Welch, who downed four Japanese planes during the Dec. 7 attack on Hawaii, and Second Lt. Kenneth M. Taylor, who downed two Jap planes. The ceremony was held at Wheeler Field. Left to right: Lt. Welch, Lt. Taylor and Major General Martin.

SEC. KNOX SAYS STORIES OF NAZI UNREST SPURIOUS

Washington, Jan. 14.—(AP)—Secretary of the Navy Knox today said he believed stories of internal unrest in Germany were spurious and deliberately spread to take the edge off America's war effort.

"Almost every one of the stories about the terrible situation in Germany originates in territory controlled by Germany," Knox told a press conference. "This alone should raise suspicion."

"Assuming that they are doing it deliberately, it is intended to take the fine edge of the sense of urgency and singleness of purpose with which this country is pushing its war effort."

Knox said also that German withdrawals in Russia should not be regarded as a sign of German military debacle.

"In many cases there has been hasty retreat, but I don't believe there is a German rout in Russia," he said. "To assume that a German retreat on ground which they have won is a rout would be an assumption as silly as we could make. It is very unwise to assume that they are about to fall apart. Germany still has the greatest military machine in the world."

"The Germans are adept at using psychological weapons. I think they are operating on us now."

FIRE PHILLY OIL TERMINAL HALTED

Claymont, Del., Jan. 14.—(AP)—A fast-spreading fire, accompanied by two terrific explosions, today destroyed a large warehouse and part of the Delaware river terminus pier of the Texas Oil company.

Firemen from six nearby rural companies and about 200 oil workers brought the flames under control two hours after they were discovered at 1:35 p. m. (EST). The cause was not immediately determined. At least three men were burned or injured.

AT 94, ADMITS FIBS Portland, Jan. 14.—(AP)—William Thompson of Portland, who fibbed about his age to get in the Union army and who says he "voted for Lincoln before I was 18," observed his 94th birthday anniversary yesterday. He is in good health.

TANKER ATTACKED OFF NEW ENGLAND

Washington, Jan. 14.—(AP)—The navy reported today that an American tanker was awash 60 miles south of Block Island off the New England coast, and said that the submarine menace to Atlantic coastwise shipping was increasing.

The name of the tanker was not known here. Naval officials in the New England area were reported by the navy here to believe that the vessel had been torpedoed by a U-boat.

Crew men from the tanker have not yet been brought ashore, the navy said.

Merchant shipping has been warned, a navy spokesman said, of the increasing submarine hazard to coastal cargo operations, in order that steps may be taken to counter the peril.

When last seen by a patrol plane the tanker's bow was about 20 feet above water and lifeboats were hobbling nearby carrying members of the crew.

Patrol vessels and aircraft were dispatched from the New London, Conn., naval center to rescue the crew men.

The location of the supposed torpedoing was apparently somewhere off Long Island sound, but the navy spokesman said the range of hostile U-boat activities appeared to spread "pretty well up and down the east coast."

Navy sources would not disclose what steps were being taken to combat the U-boat activities.

MT. SHASTA STORE OWNER ARRESTED

San Francisco, Jan. 14.—(AP)—Frank Girimonte, 42, identified on the police report as a department store owner at Mt. Shasta, was arrested by San Francisco police today on a warrant from Yreka, charging forgery.

Police Inspector Matt Savasta said merchandise contracts totaling \$40,000 were involved in the Yreka case, and that Girimonte also was to be questioned about asserted irregularities in \$20,000 worth of acceptance contracts originating in Sacramento.

Washington, Jan. 14.—(AP)—Portland, Ore., topped every city in the United States in navy recruiting for December in proportion to population, with a mark of 90.89 enlistments for each 100,000 of population, the navy announced today.

MILLIONS CACHED HERE MANILA FELL TO THWART JAPS

Washington, Jan. 14.—(AP)—The treasury announced today that American authorities had destroyed or removed "many millions of dollars" worth of assets in the Philippines to prevent them from falling into the hands of the invading Japanese.

Prior to the evacuation of Manila, the treasury disclosed, President Roosevelt delegated to Philippine High Commissioner Francis B. Sayre the sweeping authority of the new war powers act to enable him to dispose of any assets that might be useful to the Japanese.

No exact figures were available and no hint was given where the valuables may be stored.

In the Philippine theater, where General Douglas MacArthur is fighting to hold out as long as possible to keep the Japanese from diverting larger forces to the other areas, two attacks were thrown against the American and Filipino soldiers but both were repulsed. With supporting artillery and aircraft, the enemy's operations were in the nature of testing stabs, the army said. Japanese losses were reported heavy and American-Filipino casualties "comparatively small."

WALLACE ENTERS GOVERNOR'S RACE

Salem, Jan. 14.—(AP)—State Sen. Lew Wallace, Portland, completed his filing today for the Democratic nomination for governor at the May primary election. His petitions contained 1,500 signatures, while only 950 were needed.

Wallace's opposition will include Howard Latourette, Portland, Democratic national committeeman, who has not yet completed his petitions.

Governor Charles A. Sprague and Secretary of State Earl Snell are expected to contest for the Republican nomination for governor, although others might file.

ARMY PROMOTIONS Washington, Jan. 14.—(AP)—The president nominated ten high-ranking officers of the navy and marine corps today for temporary or permanent promotion.

MOSCOW REPORTS HITLER'S ENTIRE FRONT IN MOTION

Reds Storm Steel Center, Near Smolensk, Winter Quarters Of Fuehrer.

(By the Associated Press) Russian troops were reported advancing within 100 miles of Adolf Hitler's winter headquarters at Smolensk today, while in the south, red army forces were pictured as storming at the outer gates of Kharkov, Russia's "Pittsburgh" in the Ukraine.

Soviet military dispatches said collapse of a German wing defending a flank of the Moscow-to-Mozhaisk highway had knocked out the Germans' "last zone of positional warfare" before Moscow and that "the whole front is now in motion."

The Russians declared that Hitler's reeling armies had lost 200,000 killed between Nov. 16 and Jan. 6, with 20,000 slain in recent fighting in the Donets river industrial basin.

Soviet troops were described as now battering heavily against German defenses at Mozhaisk itself, 57 miles west of Moscow, where a Nazi garrison of 100,000 men still held out despite the danger of being trapped by Russian pincers closing in from the north and south.

German military quarters acknowledged that the Russians had broken into Mozhaisk lines Sunday, but asserted they were dislodged in a counter-attack which cost the Russians 300 dead.

GILL FOR ALL-OUT PRICE CEILINGS

Silverton, Jan. 14.—(AP)—State Grange Master Ray W. Gill, in his first speech since his return from a national grange executive meeting in Washington, D. C., declared last night that "if there is to be a ceiling on farm prices there should be a ceiling on all prices."

He told a group of Marion county grange officers that "when they say labor should not have a ceiling because labor is not a commodity, they forget that prices received by a farmer are largely payment for his labor."

"The danger of the present bill in congress . . . is that it will freeze the prices on farm products at a certain level while labor and other costs might rise above and cripple the farmer's ability to produce much of the needed crops."

NATION IN NEED OLD SCRAP IRON

Washington, Jan. 14.—(AP)—A group of responsible government officials today saw the nation's huge war program threatened in 1942 by a possible shortage of from four to six million tons of scrap steel—the very metal which Japan bought up so avidly here in the pre-war years.

Accordingly, they urged an immediate rummage of the nation's vacant lots, backyards and cellars for all available scrap. In a special memorandum for circulation among administration leaders, these officials asserted that unless scrap collection were stimulated the 1942 production of steel—so urgently needed for munitions—would be smaller than 1941's.

NOTHING IN NAME Camp Forrest, Tenn., Jan. 14.—(AP)—The newly-appointed camp transportation officer here is First Lieutenant Pullman Carr.

War Bulletins

Ottawa, Jan. 14.—(AP)—Japanese and enemy aliens of whatever origin, except those holding police permits to remain, are to be removed from the defense areas of British Columbia and other parts of Canada, it was announced today.

Istanbul, Turkey, Jan. 13.—(Delayed)—(AP)—Information of a semi-diplomatic nature reaching here tonight said that Field Marshal Sigmund Wilhelm List, the German conqueror of the Balkans, had disappeared, and that his friends in Berlin were concerned for his safety.

Two months ago List was reported in command of Nazi troops in southeastern Europe with headquarters in Athens. A month ago Russian sources said he had replaced Field Marshal Fedor Von Bock, German commander on the central front in Russia.

CHINESE EDITORS BLUNTLY ATTACK CONDUCT OF WAR

No Grounds For Optimism In Pacific—British Malayan Campaign Hit.

Chungking, Jan. 14.—(AP)—The Chinese press declared today that signs of British and American reinforcements in the far east were lacking, that the situation allowed of no optimism, and turned severe criticism upon the conduct of the war in the Pacific.

"British authorities in Malaya have shown themselves wanting in both vision and determination," was the blunt assertion of the Chinese army organ, Sao Tang Pao.

"The term 'Pacific War' appeared in publications 20 years ago and was the subject of constant discussion in Japan, yet Americans were caught off-guard at Pearl harbor, and the Philippines are left to look after themselves with a small force," it continued.

"Signs of Anglo-American reinforcements are absent while British and American authorities continue to indulge in side-tracking remarks. Both Knox (United States secretary of the navy) and A. V. Alexander (Britain's first lord of the admiralty) urged the allies to strike Hitler first. If Japan is allowed to take Singapore and The Netherlands East Indies it will be easier said than done for America and Britain to start the counter-offensive."

While other papers strongly supported demands for the speedy dispatch of land, naval and air reinforcements to the far east, Sao Tang Pao took the gloomy view that if Japan gained control of Malaya and the Dutch Indies she would attain self-sufficiency and become free to use "against America and Britain the economic weapon they once employed against her."

Ta Kung Pao urged Russia to strike before Japan is ready to attack Vladivostok.

SHORT MEASURED WOOD COMPLAINTS

Salem, Jan. 14.—(AP)—The state department of agriculture said today it is investigating more complaints about short measure of wood than ever before, and the department blamed it all on the war.

There is a wood shortage because wood cutters have gone into higher paying jobs in defense industries. Hence, some dealers are gypping their customers by making the dealers' wood supplies spread over as many customers as possible.

PRESIDENT PUTS NELSON IN FULL CHARGE OF ARMS

Move, Long Advocated, Comes As Surprise—No More 'Too Little, Too Late.'

Washington, Jan. 14.—(AP)—America's new war production boss, Donald M. Nelson, told the army, navy and OPM today that he was ready to shake up the entire defense setup if necessary "to lick Hitler and the Japs."

Washington, Jan. 14.—(AP)—President Roosevelt pointed the nation's industry today toward the "brilliant . . . pitiless peaks" of world war efficiency by making Donald M. Nelson the all-powerful production czar of the herculean arms program.

It will be Nelson's job to duplicate, if not surpass, the masterly economic generalship which wrung tribute from Field Marshal Von Hindenburg after the last conflict, and the grudging acknowledgement: "they understood war."

The creation of one-man production control—a step long urged on Mr. Roosevelt by his friends and critics alike—momentarily distracted the capital's attention from the Pacific war fronts. It promised initiative in the production field where lies the allied hope for ultimate victory.

It was with high interest that Washington received President Roosevelt's surprise announcement last night, investing Nelson, former mail order executive, with supreme authority for war material production.

Only a few hours earlier Nelson had made plain that his goal was to substitute "too much, too soon" for the old "too little, too late" cry that has dogged allied arms.

"We're going to build so many planes and tanks," he said, speaking in his old role as OPM's priority director, "that when this is all over those of us who are going to be criticized because we built too much."

Now the big bulky, bespectacled man will have everything to do with it.

In announcing his decision to establish the new war production board, Mr. Roosevelt said it would have the powers now exercised by the supply priorities and allocations board, and that Vice President Wallace as well as the other present members of SPAB would serve on it. Nelson has been SPAB's executive director.

Besides being chairman of the board, Nelson "will be charged with the direction of the production program and have general supervision over all production agencies," the White House said. "His decision as to questions of procurement and production will be final."

"Mr. Nelson will report to the president as to the progress of the program. He will no longer serve as director of the (OPM) priorities division but will devote his entire time to directing the production program."

Thus Nelson emerged as the combination Beaverbrook-Baruch of the war's production front battle. His board appeared roughly comparable to the war industries board which Bernard M. Baruch directed so astutely in World War I, and will exercise powers similar to those wielded by Britain's ministry of supply, headed by Lord Beaverbrook.

Washington, Jan. 14.—(AP)—The state and navy departments told Senator McNary (R-Ore.) yesterday they had no information about American civilian workers at Wake Island at the time of the Japanese attack.

McNary said seven Roseburg women whose husbands or sons were at Wake implored him for information in a joint telegram.