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Thirty-sixth Year

MEDFORD, OREGON, SUNDAY, JANUARY 25, 1942.

NO. 263.

PEARL HARBOR DERELICTION TOLD

Kelly's Comment

From Washington, D. C.

Lifetime Habits
Will Be Changed

Whiskey Makers
Face Curtailing

By John W. Kelly

Washington, D. C., Jan. 24.—Residents of the northwest will soon find their habits of a lifetime dislocated by the war, and a year from now they may be referring to this date as "the good old days." The country has been precipitated into war so suddenly that there is natural confusion. In the first world war the nation stepped in gradually and went about its preparations deliberately. Now everything began the crack of a gun at Pearl Harbor. The famed M-day program, evolved for more than ten years by the war department, has been scrapped. Instead of mobilizing troops at fairgrounds, schools, auditoriums, townships have been built—more will be constructed—for the assembling and training of soldiers.

Three civilians two from Oregon and one from Washington, working under army engineers, had a complete record of every ironworks, shipyard print shop, pulp mill, sawmill and all other industrial units in the northwest states. They knew what each could do, what the machinery was fit for under war conditions; sealed orders were placed in the strongboxes of hundreds of plants and the plan was intended to attain the maximum of production while at the same time not particularly disturbing the even tenor of the ways of the people. Louis Johnson, then assistant secretary of war, was placed in charge of this industrial program and he performed a wonderful job. Little business was taken care of as well as big business. For some unexplained reason this plan to utilize the industrial resources of the northwest was cast aside.

(Continued on Page Six)

WOMEN'S CLUB IN STALEMATE OVER RED RESOLUTION

Washington, Jan. 24.—(P)—Directors of the General Federation of Women's Clubs today tabled a resolution approving military and economic aid to Russia because they could not agree on how to express their opposition to Communism.

As a result the resolution will hold over until the annual national convention next May in Fort Worth, Tex. In the past, the federation has been strong in its condemnation of Communism.

The first move to table was defeated, but as the discussion continued heatedly past the lunch hour, a second motion prevailed.

The women turned to the resolution stage of their meeting after hearing from Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt a suggestion that the federation interest more women's groups in continuance of national youth administration aid for college youth.

As assistant civilian defense director, the president's wife presided last night at the national defense forum, sponsored by the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

Mrs. Roosevelt said she favored cutting out NYA aid to high school students. But she said that she would consider it very serious if this aid for college students were dispensed with.

INCREASE FORCE

Portland, Jan. 24.—(AP)—A 25-man increase on the police force to boost the total to 432, largest in Portland's history, was recommended today by Mayor Earl Riley. He said the war emergency made an enlarged force necessary.

ARMY, NAVY HEADS WARNED WAR NEAR FAILED TO HEED

Errors of Judgment Charged
In Report—Blame Fixed
—Final Warning Failed
To Arrive—Contributory
Causes.

Washington, Jan. 24.—(P)—A presidential board of inquiry today attributed the success of the Japanese attack on Pearl harbor primarily to "dereliction of duty" on the part of Lieutenant General Walter C. Short and Admiral Husband E. Kimmel, the commanding officers of the army and navy in that area.

They had been adequately informed from Washington that war was imminent, it found. They had been warned to prepare against an air raid. They failed to confer upon the warnings and the measures to be taken under them. They refused to believe an air attack possible.

Consequently the Japanese raid was a "complete surprise." One result of their lack of collaboration, the board said, was that Short believed the navy was operating reconnaissance flights far off shore, when it was not, and that Kimmel thought the army was operating devices which would detect the approach of planes, when these were actually in service only a few hours each day.

Factors Listed
But, while the board pinned major responsibility upon the two officers, it found numerous other contributing factors:

Effective Japanese espionage—which could not be adequately countered under peace time conditions.

Japan's disregard of international law in making the attack before declaring war.

Emphasis in warning messages sent from Washington on sabotage and the possibility of a Japanese attack in the western Pacific rather than at Pearl harbor.

However, the blame was placed squarely upon Short and Kimmel, who in the opinion of the board "failed to make suitable dispositions to meet such an attack" and "failed properly to evaluate the seriousness of the situation." It added:

"These errors of judgment were the effective causes for the success of the attack."

Striking Incidents
It noted, too, two striking incidents.

A destroyer and an airplane teamed up to sink a small Japanese submarine just outside Pearl harbor, 43 minutes before the attack. It was reported to the chief of staff at the naval base. No additional alert orders were issued.

The army's aircraft detectors were operated four hours daily, from 4 to 7 a. m. On the morning of the attack they shut down as usual at 7, 45 minutes before the Jap airplanes struck. At one of them a non-commissioned officer, learning to use the devices, was given permission to continue operating. At 7:02 he discovered what appeared to be a large flight of planes north.

(Continued on Page Nine)

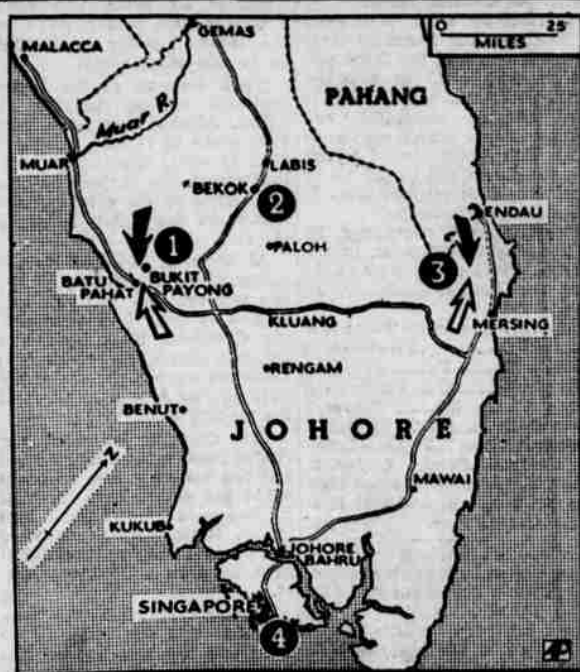
MYSTERY DEATH TO GRANTS PASS MAN

Grants Pass, Ore., Jan. 24.—(P)—A rural mail carrier discovered the body of H. E. Stewart, 67, in mysterious circumstances near his home south of here today.

The body, with bruised face and hands, was found in a shallow pit 1000 feet from the house. Blood was found on a bed pillow and on two doors. A kerosene lamp had been tipped over the body, which was unshod and had only one sock.

Mail and papers at the house had been unclaimed since January 13.

British Attack in Malaya



British forces in Malaya engaged in a counter-offensive against Jap spearheads in Bukit Payong area (arrows, 1.) North of Mersing the Japanese ambushed enemy troops moving south from Endau (arrows, 3) and at Singapore (4) five Jap bombers were shot down.

32 NIPPO PLANES BROUGHT DOWN IN RANGOON BATTLE

Rangoon, Burma, Jan. 24.—(AP)—The skillful American and British pilots who defend the modern road to Mandalay won another spectacular air combat over the Rangoon area today, annihilating an entire bomber squadron and totaling up a 2-day bag of 32 Japanese planes.

Military secrecy, meanwhile, covered the land action in southern Burma's watch-frog appendage, where the British were shortening their land line east of Moulmein, Kipling-esque port which lies across the broad gulf of Martaban from Rangoon.

Thousands of delighted Burmese saw the wild, mid-day dogfight in the sky in which every one of a seven-plane Japanese flight of heavy, two-motored bombers was shot down, and four of their protecting fighters were sent plummeting in flames toward the rice paddies about the city.

Yesterday the combined fighter force of the RAF and the AVG—American volunteer group of former U. S. army and navy pilots—knocked down 21 out of more than 80 raiders.

All the united nations' flyers got back to base in safety today. Two were lost yesterday, one an American.

By contrast the Japanese bombers today apparently lost every man of their 5-man crews. None was seen to escape by parachute.

Their fighter escorts failed miserably to protect them from the savage allied attacks.

STORM WARNINGS
ORDERED PUT UP

San Francisco, Jan. 24.—(AP)—The weather bureau ordered storm warnings up at 5:30 a. m. today from Point Conception, Santa Barbara county, to the Oregon line.

The bureau announced that winds occasionally reached 50 miles an hour off shore this morning.

HONOLULU AMAZED BY REVELATIONS ON SNEAK ATTACK

Honolulu, Jan. 24.—(P)—Honolulu was astonished by Associate Justice Owen J. Roberts special commission's report, which was even stronger medicine than some of the wildest "rumors" concerning reasons why the Japanese caught Oahu flat-footed in the December 7 raid.

Both Admiral Husband E. Kimmel and Lieut. Gen. Walter C. Short, whom the commission accused of "dereliction of duty" in failing to make specific preparations for the attack, left Honolulu some time ago and there was no official comment here on the report.

Intensely interested service men and civilians bought out newspaper extras by the thousands. It was like hearing "that other shoe" drop to the floor in the room after the long, anxious wait since Kimmel and Short were relieved of their commands.

Particular amazement was caused by the commission's revelation that although a Japanese submarine was sunk off Pearl harbor more than an hour before the raid, no general alarm was sounded.

Besides verifying many rumors that had been afloat here persistently since the attack, the report brought out many facts which had not even been whispered outside high official circles.

The most common unofficial reaction could be summed up in this way:

"It's a good thing. It will clear the air and clear the decks for the hard fight ahead. The report contains a lesson for all. It will make the entire Hawaiian area more alert from now on."

One unofficial criticism of the report expressed by numerous persons was that it failed to tell what happened that morning at Pearl harbor.

RIGHT TO CRITICIZE

Boise, Idaho, Jan. 24.—(P)—Voluntary censorship of war news will have the cooperation of Idaho editors, but a resolution of the Idaho Editorial association today declared the right of the press to "constructive criticism."

LOANS PAID

Washington, Jan. 24.—(P)—Oregon borrowers of the Home Owners' Loan corporation have repaid \$19,320,971, or 45 percent of their indebtedness, the corporation announced today.

SAVING TIRES

Klamath Falls, Jan. 24.—(P)—The Klamath county class B basketball league has abandoned its regular schedule because of tire and automobile shortages.

MAC ARTHUR MEN IN PHILIPPINES IN CRUCIAL FRAY

Atrocities Laid To Japs—
Enemy Strength In-
creases; Ground Yielded.

Washington, Jan. 24.—(P)—Fighting in the Philippines apparently reached an extremely critical phase today with Japanese warships off the China sea coast of Batan peninsula shelling General Douglas MacArthur's weary and battered fighting men and fresh enemy troops pushing them back at a number of points.

Under cover of the warships the Japanese were landing additional troops on the western coast of Batan in an attempt to roll back the American-Filipino left flank and perhaps also to infiltrate behind the defenders' main line.

Despite this obviously perilous situation, MacArthur found time to forward the war department advice of Japanese atrocities against prisoners, reporting specifically that a Filipino had been found with his hands bound and his body bayoneted.

This, it was noted, was a flagrant violation of international agreements to which Japan is a party concerning treatment of prisoners. The war department added:

"However floutly the enemy act, the general states that he will abide by decent concepts of humanity and civilization."

Heavy losses on both sides were reported by the war department in summing up the situation. And, it added that although fatigued from constant fighting, the American and Filipino soldiers continued a stubborn resistance, and by fierce counter attacks had recaptured some of their lost positions.

But the enemy held to some points won from the defenders, and its numerical superiority was constantly increasing. Reinforcements were landing at Subic bay, close by MacArthur's left flank, where, the army said, the Japanese attacks were heaviest.

In all, in the communique aroused grave apprehension here as to how long MacArthur's men might be able to continue their resistance. The department's announcement contained no note of optimism other than that "the enthusiasm, courage and devotion" of the men were "undiminished."

But in a war of machines, this is not enough, and the capital was prepared for the worst.

EVERY AUSSIE TO FIGHT IF NEEDED

New York, Jan. 24.—(P)—Every Australian—man, woman and child—will turn soldier, if need be, to protect his land from Japanese aggression, Australia's prime minister, John Curtin, declared today in a broadcast recorded by CBS.

Asked if any Australian citizen would be surrendered to possible invasion to avert death and destruction, Curtin replied with an emphatic, "No."

"Should Japanese aggression come to this country, Australia will duplicate the British policy of 'every village a strong point, every town a fortress, and every man, woman and child a soldier,'" Curtin said.

War Bulletins

London, Jan. 24.—(P)—The British admiralty announced tonight that British warships had "intercepted and captured" the 8,000-ton Italian vessel *Duchessa D'Aosta*.

Melbourne, Jan. 24.—(P)—Australian Army Minister Francis M. Forde ordered mobilization of home defenses and acceleration of the drafting of married men under the age of 35 and single men under 45 today.

RUSSIA CAPTURES NAZI WAR STORES AS FLIGHT GROWS

British Envoy Predicts Sov-
iet War With Japan
'Inevitable.'

(By Associated Press)
Russia presented solid new proof last (Saturday) night, if any further evidence were needed, that the unending German retreat to the west is neither a line-straightening withdrawal, as Berlin once liked to explain, nor the process necessary to establishment of a "fluid front," which was the latest bit of Berlin rationalizing.

The proof was piled up in the form of vast stores of provisions and war materiel which have been seized in the course of a Russian drive that has dislodged the northern anchor of the German line, virtually encircled Rzhhev, another key Nazi position, and, according to a British broadcast, threatened Smolensk itself, where Adolf Hitler at last report was said to have established his headquarters.

The Russians pointed out the captured stores were so large they were, in themselves, proof the Germans had meant to hold on throughout the winter in positions from which they now have been routed.

Coupled by coincidence with the Soviet account of this latest smashing triumph was a prediction by Sir Stafford Cripps, returned from 18 months as British ambassador to Russia, that war between the Soviet and Japan is inevitable.

Sir Stafford did not elaborate on this statement. But he did report that the Russian army, with 9,000,000 men under arms, is confident it will have crushed the Germans completely by the winter of 1942.

On the African front, the crucial battle which only a few days ago had been expected to develop near El Agheila was spreading out 90 miles to the northeast in a triangular area some 400 miles square.

There, in a sector bounded roughly by Agadabia in the west, Antelat to the north and Saunnu to the east, German General Erwin Rommel had split his African army into several columns, each with tanks as its spearhead. The Nazi commander's strategy appeared to be the destruction of British supply depots—built up, ironically, by the British in the expectation they would be holding the initiative, rather than the defensive, in the fight.

CHINESE ATTACK JAP RAIL CENTER

Chungking, Jan. 24.—(P)—Violent Chinese attacks on a Japanese base and a railway junction along the Peiping-Hankow railway in north China were announced tonight by army headquarters.

The fighting still is in progress, the communique said, and Japanese supply lines in the area have been cut.

One point of assault is Siao-kan, 40 miles north of Hankow, and Hwaiyuan, between Siao-kan and Hankow. The latter has an important airdrome while Hwaiyuan is a junction of great strategic value.

RUBBER AVAILABLE FOR GIRDLES, ETC.

Washington, Jan. 24.—(P)—Cheerio, girls, you'll be able to get girdles after all.

The war production board announced today that it would set within a few days to make a "limited amount" of crude rubber available for the manufacture of girdles, corsets and other foundation garments.

To Prison



William Du'ey Pelley (foreground), leader of the Silver Shirt organization, steps from the elevator that brought him from jail to the court room at Asheville, N. C., where he was sentenced to serve two to three years in prison by Judge F. Don Phillips who ruled that Pelley had violated terms of a suspended sentence after his conviction, seven years ago, of using the means of fraudulent advertising to sell stock. A deputy sheriff is behind Pelley.

SUGAR RATIONING DUE NEXT MONTH, WARN HOARDERS

Washington, Jan. 24.—(P)—Government rationing of sugar, it was announced tonight, will begin early next month with each person limited to about a pound a week.

Announcing the program, Price Administrator Leon Henderson said it was proposed, too, to recover excess stocks from persons who have hoarded supplies.

The prospective allowance of one pound per person a week compares with average per capita home consumption of about 1 1/2 pounds a week in 1941.

Henderson said there was an actual shortage of about one-third in the sugar supply, and that this, rather than hoarding, necessitated this first foodstuff rationing of the war.

Rationing books have been designed and printing of them will be started in a day or two, he said.

Then, in a direct word of warning to hoarders, Henderson asserted:

"Those who have stocks on hand are advised to start using them now."

"Consumers who are in possession of abnormally large stocks of sugar are warned that they will not be permitted to gain an advantage from their supposed foresight."

He did not amplify this statement, but OPA officials stressed it as one of the most important in the rationing announcement. Action against hoarders will be an important part of the rationing program, they said.

JAP SUB SUNK

London, Jan. 24.—(P)—A British ship operating in the far east has destroyed a Japanese submarine, the admiralty announced today.

POOL RESOURCES

Marshfield, Jan. 24.—(P)—Southwestern Oregon machine shop owners, seeking war contracts, have agreed to pool resources.

NIGHT ATTACK ON NIP SHIPS BRINGS VICTORY TO NAVY

Enemy Convoy Suffers In
Macassar Straits Battle
—Quell Atlantic Menace.

Washington, Jan. 24.—(P)—The navy announced today that United States destroyers in a night attack on an enemy convoy in the Macassar straits had made several torpedo and close range gun hits on destroyers and transports, blowing up one enemy ship, sinking another and severely damaging some other vessels.

The United States destroyers received only slight damage, the navy department said in a communique, and their only casualties were four men wounded, one seriously and three slightly.

The Macassar straits lead north and south between Borneo and Celebes in the Dutch East Indies. They afford the most direct route, about 1,000 miles, between Davao in the Philippines, now used as a Japanese naval base, and the island of Bali in the Java sea.

The text of the communique, No. 32, based on reports received up to 2 p. m. PST today. "Far east:

"The navy department has been advised by the commander in chief, Asiatic Fleet, that United States destroyers made a night attack on an enemy convoy in the Macassar straits. Our forces made several torpedo hits and close range gun hits on destroyers and transports. The effect of the attack was that one large enemy ship was blown up; a third was listing heavily when last sighted, and considerable damage was inflicted upon other vessels."

"Our destroyers received only slight damage. Our only casualties were four men wounded, one seriously and three slightly."

"Atlantic area:
"Enemy submarines are operating off the east coast of the United States as far south as Savannah, Ga. Counter measures against their activities are continuing with favorable results."

TANK BATTLE IN LIBYA IN DOUBT

Cairo, Jan. 24.—(AP)—Mobile columns of the British eighth army smashed tonight at the counter-attacking forces of Nazi General Erwin Rommel in a hard and sprawling battle of tanks on the eastern side of the Cirenaic desert hump.

The engagement was on a battlefield of great size, in a triangle bounded by Agadabia, Saunnu, 43 miles to the east and Antelat, 30 miles to the north.

British Middle-Eastern headquarters was without word of precise results, but it felt able to report that the strong RAF forces in the desert had done "great execution" in bombing and strafing assaults on the enemy's mechanized transports all around Agadabia.

SEEK STRIKE END

Portland, Jan. 24.—(P)—The war labor board was asked yesterday to intervene in a three-week-old strike that has thrown 1,800 workers at the Doernbecher Manufacturing company into idleness.

GRAIN NEAR TOP

Chicago, Jan. 24.—(P)—A late rush to buy today lifted grain futures prices back to near top levels for the past five years, reducing losses inflicted by profit taking since these peaks were established earlier in the week.

SNAG KILLS

Glendale, Jan. 24.—(AP)—Clyde A. Waterman, 41, Ingham Lumber Company woods boss, was fatally crushed yesterday by a snag, toppled by the branch of a falling tree.