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JAP LANDING FORCE PERIL'S BRITISH

Kelly's Comment

From Washington, D. C.
British Blamed For Shortages
Wood and Steel In Competition
Commerce Office Saving Rejected

By John W. Kelly
Washington, D. C., April 2.—There has developed an unusual angle on the war in the hearts of a congressional committee which shows that while the United States has muffed some important matters, a large share of the inconvenience now experienced by the American people can be laid at the doors of the British. It is the over-confidence of the British that today has affected every automobile dealer and tire salesman; too much complacency now threatens to limit the fruit, vegetable and fish canneries to one year's supply of tin to stretch over five years.

Here is what the congressional committee uncovered: Jesse Jones has been kicked around for not buying more natural rubber and for not starting the manufacture of synthetic two years ago when it was advised by the war industries board. President Roosevelt did not feel that synthetic rubber should be attempted on a large scale; the president took the word of the British that the natural rubber of Malaya and the Dutch East Indies would always be available. About 98 per cent of the tin used in the United States comes from the international tin committee, which is British controlled and handles markets and smelting. The committee has opposed any smelter in the United States and up to the present has been successful. There would always be tin, all that America requires, assured the international tin committee, for there was an unlimited supply in Malaya. Well?

THE British gave every assurance and guarantee that the Dutch East Indies and that rubber-tin region was immune from invasion. It was asserted that the Japanese could never get to

Radio Highlights

(Pacific war time.)
Tonight: Talks—CBS 5:30 People's Platform, "Manpower for War and Industry"; BLU 6 Town Meeting, "How Should America Take the Offensive?"
Friday: Good Friday programs—NBC 9 a. m., "Seven Last Words"; BLU 11 a. m., concert and mixed voices. MBS, 11:15, service from St. Peter's, Philadelphia; 11:45, services from Father Duffy monument, New York. MBS 12:45, Pearl Harbor broadcast.

SIDE GLANCES

BY TRIBUNE REPORTERS

Harry Copinger hastily dashing up a flight of stairs to explain that the area marked off in front of the new Central Point post office was reserved for the mail carriers.

George Field, after extolling his own virtues in the course of a cantonment reconnaissance tour, ending up with an adjutant job for the Army day parade.

Wes Graham, on asking a Camp White guard the location of a certain unit, being told "must be down there somewhere because three or four other fellows who also wanted to know went that way and they haven't come back yet."

Diamond Flynn having a hard time remembering what his daughter sent him to the grocery store to purchase.

Rus Acheson commuting by bicycle from football field to high school.

MAIN BURMA PORT ON BENGAL BAY IN INVADERS' HANDS

Action Brings Japs Nearer India And In Rear of Imperial Forces Guarding Oil.

By Roger D. Greene
(Associated Press War Editor)
Japanese sea-borne troops thrusting closer to India were reported today to have landed at the chief west Burma port of Akyab, only 100 miles from the Burma-India frontier.

A Chinese spokesman in Chungking said the Japanese landed at Akyab under the protective covering of a force of cruisers and destroyers.

Near Calcutta
Akyab is only 350 miles across the upper Bay of Bengal from Calcutta.

Besides heightening the threat of a Japanese invasion of India, the landing directly imperilled the rear of British imperial lines now guarding the rich central Burma oil fields.

Meanwhile, dispatches from Australia indicated that Japan's invasion forces in the southwest Pacific, halted in their attempted overland drive in New Guinea, were preparing to launch a sea-borne attack on the key allied base at Port Moresby, only 300 miles across the Torres strait from Australia itself.

The Sydney Sun declared such an assault was "suggested by recent movements of enemy ships, which are being concentrated at Lae and Salamaua by the allied air forces."

Lae and Salamaua lie on the northeast coast of New Guinea, less than 200 miles above Port Moresby.

Get Air Reinforcements
The newspaper also reported that the Japanese were receiving "considerable" aerial reinforcements, threatening to challenge the air superiority won by United States and Australian fliers in the battle for the approaches to Australia.

A British broadcast said American and Aussie fliers had destroyed or crippled 96 Japanese planes with a loss of only 12 of their own since March 10.

Wary of the stiff allied fighter defenses, Japanese planes made their first night attack on Darwin, Australia's north coast port, last night, after suffering heavy losses in previous daylight raids.

Skirmish in Bataan
In the Philippine theater, a war department bulletin reported sharp skirmishes on Bataan peninsula in the wake of yesterday's big-scale assault, in which Japanese troops captured some American-Filipino outposts but failed to reach the main defense lines.

The war department said enemy artillery and dive bombers attacked Lieut.-Gen. Jonathan W. Wainwright's Bataan positions and Japanese planes continued their round-the-clock assaults on fortresses in Manila bay. However, the Japanese were forced to fly at such high altitudes that their bombing was ineffective.

Big guns of Fort Mills on Corregidor island duelled with Japanese batteries on the south shore of the bay.

F. D. R. Will Register With Others April 17

Washington, April 2.—(P)—President Roosevelt and 13,589,799 other men will register for selective service April 27, on the basis of census bureau figures.

The bureau calculated, on the basis of the 1940 census, that that many men would be in the 45 to 64 year age group.

THOMAS GARRET DEWS SUMMONED BY DEATH

Thomas Garret Dews, a lifelong resident of Medford passed away at a local hospital early Thursday morning. A complete obituary will be published in tomorrow's paper. The Perli funeral home is in charge of funeral arrangements.

Tells Air Success



(above), head of the U. S. bomber command in the Philippines and Dutch East Indies, smashed Jap claims of superior flying in a report from Australia of American successes. The war department released this picture of him.

COL. FERCH WILL SPEAK HERE ON 'TOTAL WAR' DAY

Commander of Camp White on Program For Big Celebration — Parade at 7.

Lieutenant Colonel George C. Ferch, commander of Camp White, will speak on "Unity Needed by the Army" as the high school football stadium Monday evening at the termination of the "Total War" day parade. The parade, which has been dedicated to the U. S. military men fighting for democracy, will be led by Lieutenant Colonel Ferch and Major Theron W. Bean. Scheduled to begin at 7 o'clock the mass parade will be followed by a defense demonstration and program at the football field.

Participating in the parade will be fraternal, civic and patriotic organizations, floats, civilian defense volunteers, bands, school bugle and drum corps. Those in charge, expect that the parade will be one of the largest held in Medford for some time and churches, social organizations and labor unions are requested to be represented also.

National Affair
Army day, to be observed Monday throughout the United States, and renamed "Total War Day," promises to be a national display by patriotic citizens. From national headquarters local officials have received the suggestion that those attending walk to the demonstration in order to show their interest in saving rubber and "bring home the fact that we are in a life and death struggle."

At the high school a demonstration of actual burning of magnesium bombs and their control by both sand and water will be staged. High school students are constructing a house which will be used in this exhibit. First aid will be demonstrated followed by a program. Included are an address by Lieutenant Colonel Ferch; Captain Joseph K. Carson, Jr., who is also commander of the Oregon State American Legion; R. G. Fowler chairman of the Jackson county salvage committee; William A. Gates, county chairman for defense stamp and bond sales.

Speakers will be introduced by Mayor H. S. Deuel, whose local proclamation for "Total War day" observance called for closing of all business houses except utilities Monday at 5 p. m., so that personnel could assemble for the parade.

Word comes from Ashland today that Mayor T. S. Wiley plans to be present or will personally be represented by other Ashland residents. He has asked Ashland citizens to participate in the event.

New York, April 2.—(P)—Amid the din of workmen's hammers on two new battle ships, the navy today commissioned the 1,650-ton destroyer Farenholt at the navy yard, Brooklyn.

Baby Born in Lifeboat Making Good Progress

Norfolk, Va., April 2.—(P)—Courage was the only necessity his mother and his doctor had when Jesse Roper Mohorovicic decided to enter this life Sunday night in a packed lifeboat plunging through darkness and 15-foot Atlantic waves. So they used much of it with success.

The eight-pound baby boy's birth amidst the rolling waves after the torpedoing by an axis submarine of an American passenger-cargo ship on which Mrs. Desanka Mohorovicic, 28, of New York, was traveling. Three crewmen were killed and 29 other persons were still missing today, but the mother, her baby and 87 other survivors reached Norfolk safely.

Young Jesse was born 13 hours after the launching of the lifeboat in which rode 24 persons. The mother, wife of an attaché of the Yugoslav consulate of New York, had then been in labor three or four hours.

Dr. L. H. Conly of Brooklyn, N. Y., ship's doctor, suffered from the fracture of two ribs received in a drop from the ship into the lifeboat.

He had no anesthesia and only the "simple instruments" of the lifeboat's medical kit.

A sail, only cover at hand—was stretched across one end of the lifeboat as a makeshift protection for the mother, and the job was done.

Jesse did his part by living out the next 24 hours until a rescue vessel came, cradled in a woman's turban and tucked between his mother's dress against the cold wind of the sea.

The infant, his mother and a two-year-old sister, Vissna, were in a Norfolk hospital today, showing no ill effects from the experience.

War Bulletins

London, April 2.—(P)—Several German radio stations went off the air at 7:15 p. m. tonight (11:15 a. m. PWT)—well before dark—after telling listeners to tune in on Breslau. Stations going off the air usually is an indication that air raiders are approaching, but ordinarily this comes only well after night-fall.

London, April 2.—(P)—A Bromberg message received in Zurich reported today that 21 Polish citizens had been executed, "for the murder of two Germans." Exchange Telegraph said today.

Price Ceiling Looms On Used Automobiles; Expect No Rationing

Cleveland, April 2.—(P)—A price ceiling probably will be placed upon used automobiles within a week or two, a price administration official declared today.

Cyrus McCormick III, chief of the OPA's automobile and truck section, told a conference of automobile dealers and ration board representatives plans for the ceiling on used car prices now are being worked out at Washington.

"There is no likelihood that rationing will be extended to used cars," McCormick asserted during a question period following the conference.

LEW AYRES BEGINS WOODSMAN'S LIFE

Wyeth, Ore., April 2.—(P)—Work in the timbered Cascade mountain country started today for Hollywood's Lew Ayres, whose life in a conscientious objectors' camp rather than enter military service.

From now until the end of the war Ayres will arise at 6 a. m. and leave for the woods at 7:30 to cut trails, make clearings and—if need be—fight forest fires.

Toronto, April 2.—(P)—All movies featuring Lew Ayres, a conscientious objector to bearing arms for the United States, are being recalled from the 150 Canadian theaters of the Famous Players corporation, it was announced today by Bernard Geldsaler, booking manager.

CAMP WHITE ROAD BIDS ARE SCANNED

Portland, April 2.—(P)—The state highway commission received permission from the war production board today to buy 134 tons of old rails for highway bridges near army cantonments at Medford and Corvallis, and another near Dillard.

Commissioners were elated at the order, which came via telegram from the WPB. It thawed out a priorities difficulty that threatened the cantonment road program.

Low bids received by the commission included: Jackson county—Creek-Ashland section Crater Lake highway, Burke Bros., Portland, \$252,908.50; section B, Jacobson-Jensen, Portland, \$123,278; road structures, same highway, Tru-Mix Concrete company, Portland, \$19,939.

OFFICE FURNITURE PUT IN 'FREEZER'

Washington, April 2.—(P)—The War Production Board today froze manufacturers' stocks of metal office furniture and equipment and prohibited production of virtually all types after May 31.

Effective immediately, the board directed, output of insulated metal filing cabinets, safes and metal visible record equipment must be halted, except to fill top-rated priority orders.

RED TAPE SNARLS CHROMITE MINER ON G.P. DELIVERY

War-Essential Mineral Delivered at Purchasing Depot, Facilities Lacking.

Grants Pass, April 2.—(P)—Southern Oregon and northern California chromite miners who prodded the federal government for several months until it agreed to buy the war-essential mineral in truckload lots delivered their first order to the purchasing depot here yesterday and then struck trouble.

The RFC's metal reserve company, which set April 1 as its deadline to be in operation, was caught short on facilities, and today suggested that miners not haul chromite to the depot yet until the government agency is ready in the unestablished future.

Eugene produced seven truckloads produced in the two states yesterday, averaging about five tons a load. D. C. Beyer, purchasing agent, had the loads weighed at a grain mill in lieu of permanent arrangement for scales. The chromite was then dumped on ten acres leased from the county for the duration for a charge of \$1.

Payment Sidetracked
Beyer took samples of ore for moisture content, but none for chemical analysis because the metals reserve company has not yet made arrangements for assays. Similarly, promises of quick payment by RFC offices in Portland will be shelved because no basis for payment is possible until analysis is made.

Brown, who hauled the chromite, confided he had become involved in a little red tape.

Months of asking permission to purchase two new trucks were climaxed recently by WPB authority because the trucks are needed for hauling a substance essential to prosecution of the war. The anti-climax, however, is the fact that the trucks were "frozen" after he got them, he said. He rented trucks from other owners to make the haul here.

DEFENDS POLICY



W. S. Farish (above), president of Standard Oil of New Jersey, told the senate defense investigating committee that "the facts and records are exactly contrary" to charges the company frustrated synthetic rubber development in the U. S. through agreements with a German firm.

CRIPPS, INDIANS SHOW DISPOSITION FOR COMPROMISE

New Delhi, India, April 2.—(P)—Both Sir Stafford Cripps, special British envoy to India, and the all-India congress party indicated today a willingness to negotiate a compromise solution of the Indian independence problem.

The executive committee of the party, India's most powerful political organization, was expected to deliver tonight its detailed rejection of a British offer of post-war dominion status in return for full war participation now under British guidance.

But it was understood that the committee also was drafting counter-proposals to be submitted to Cripps if the British war cabinet member so desires.

By postponing his departure for home in the midst of the evident stalemate over Britain's take-it-or-leave-it offer, Cripps seemed to have left the door ajar for negotiation or counter-proposals.

Before he did this and before it became known that the congress party committee was drafting a counter-plan, virtually all hope for the success of the Cripps mission had vanished.

MRS. McLAGLEN DIES

La Canada, Calif., April 2.—(P)—Mrs. Enid McLaglen, 43, wife of Film Actor Victor McLaglen, died at her home today after a long illness. Mrs. McLaglen, a non-professional, was born in London and married the actor there in 1918.

11 Norwegian Vessels Try Skagerrak Gantlet

Stockholm, April 2.—(P)—German warships blocking the Skagerrak were declared today to have sunk at least two of 11 British-chartered Norwegian merchant ships which risked a daring dash to England from Goteborg, Sweden, and although several others were reported turned back the possibility was held out that some might yet be at large and racing toward safety.

The merchantmen which slipped out of Goteborg in a blinding snowstorm Tuesday night ran into a blockade of Nazi warcraft which had laid in wait for them since the Germans found themselves unable to seize control of the ships through action in the Swedish courts.

From the stories of fishermen and residents of the little coastal towns which shook with cannoning Tuesday night and yesterday, Swedish newspapers compiled this record of the fate of the ships:

Two of the merchantmen, the 12,358-ton whale oil ship Skytteren, and the 6,222-ton Buccaneer, were sunk by German gun fire almost as soon as they passed the three mile territorial limit outside Goteborg.

One ship went aground; one was seen burning at sea and perhaps sank; two, cut off from hope of escape, turned back into a Swedish port yesterday afternoon. At least two more were said to be returning, perhaps damaged.

At least two large cargo vessels were given at least a fighting chance of breaking through. Fishermen said they were last seen yesterday, undamaged and racing for the open sea.

The Social Demokraten said that on the ships sent to the bottom there probably had been considerable loss of life.

BRITISH BOMBERS SMASH AGAIN AT NAZI INDUSTRIES

Hitler Claims Successful Attacks on Allied Shipping — RAF Loses 15 Planes.

By the Associated Press
British bombers smashed anew at German war foundries in the environs of Paris last night, the London air ministry announced today, while Adolf Hitler's high command reported "very successful" attacks against United States and British shipping in the grim battle of the Atlantic.

As if countering a U. S. navy announcement that 28 axis submarines had been sunk or presumed sunk by United States forces so far, the Nazi high command asserted that the German navy and air force destroyed 105 allied merchant ships totaling 636,900 tons during the month of March.

U-Boats Get 91
U-boats alone sank 91 ships totalling 584,900 tons, the German command said, adding that 39 other merchant vessels were heavily damaged by torpedo or bomb hits.

Informed quarters in Washington said America's anti-submarine campaign was being stepped up rapidly to meet an expected summer drive by 300 to 400 U-boats, and declared that the Germans had failed in their major objective—to divert U. S. naval strength from more vital war fronts.

Vichy (France) news agency dispatches said RAF bombers striking into occupied France during the night attacked a number of points on the outskirts of Paris, particularly at Ruell, Sannois and Poissy.

The British air ministry said the heaviest blows were rained on the Matford works at Poissy, eight miles west of Paris, which had been rolling out 20 trucks daily for the German war machine.

The air ministry acknowledged 15 RAF bombers were missing from far-ranging raids that reached into west and northwest Germany as well as into the Paris region. A German communiqué said 11 British bombers were shot down over the reich alone.

RAF fighter planes also attacked objective in Belgium and northern France.

TWO KILLED WHEN PLANE HITS HALL

Everett, Wash., April 2.—(P)—Two privates were killed and the pilot of the airplane was seriously injured early this morning when a Paine field pursuit plane crashed into the big consolidated mess hall at the airbase Colonel A. C. Strickland, commanding officer, announced.

The dead were: Private James H. Hanley, Little Rock, Ark.; Private Henry H. Robertson, Elk City, Okla.

Seriously injured was Second Lieutenant Oscar L. Morse, 24, Cook, Neb.

The two men killed, stated Col. Strickland, were attendants at the mess hall which is built to accommodate several hundred men at a sitting.

The plane, which had just taken off the field before crashing into the building, burst into flames and the fire quickly spread to the mess hall.

The fire was extinguished by the Paine field fire department.

ELLIOTT REAPPOINTED STATE DENTAL BOARD

Salem, April 2.—(P)—Governor Charles A. Sprague today reappointed Dr. Bert R. Elliott, Medford, and Arthur F. Weeks, Portland, to the state board of dental examiners for three-year terms beginning yesterday.

Elliott was appointed three years ago by Sprague for his first term. He has served as president of the five-member board for the past year.