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MEDFORD, OREGON, MONDAY, APRIL 13, 1942.

NO. 19.

JAP FLEET DOMINATES BENGAL BAY

News Behind The News By Paul Mallon

Washington, April 13.—Daily localized successes of the Russians during the winter may have blinded us to the reality of their critical spring condition.

The unwelcome truth is they have not captured much that the Germans tried desperately to hold.

An assessment of the winter fighting, now nearing an end, shows they saved Moscow and won Kalinin, Rostov and the Valdai hills, but they were not able fully to relieve Leningrad.

While they have frequently been reported marching into the outskirts of Kharkov, they have not won the city. They thought they had 150,000 Nazis trapped at Mozhaisk and 100,000 more at Staraya Russa, but they claimed no such captures in the end.

It would be well for us to face the fact that, at the end of an advantageous period for Russian fighting, most of the key positions are still in Nazi hands. The Reds have gained only about 15 percent of the territory they had lost.

TO start off the spring, about 40 percent of Russian industry is in German hands. Our shipments to their fighting front have been substituted, but cannot replace this loss.

Strangely, their plane production is up beyond a year ago, which is a very encouraging factor, though all other production is down.

The Nazis, however, are not in such a good productive position as you would surmise from their vast industrial seizures in France, the lowlands and southeastern Europe. Hitler passed his peak in both manpower and materials a year ago.

German plane production has not increased in the past 12 months. (Incidentally our production is yet nowhere near its peak, in fact, is just beginning to rise.)

Greatest Russian victory is one which could not be estimated in commensures—the

(Continued on Page Four)

SIGN HAITI PACT
Washington, April 13.—(P)—The United States announced today the signing of four agreements with Haiti, including one designed to materially strengthen defense of the Caribbean republic.

Radio Highlights

(Pacific War Time)
Replacing the usual broadcast of the radio forum at 6 tonight, the blue will switch to Mexico City for ceremonies at the opening of the Benjamin Franklin library. Speakers include President Avila Chamacho of Mexico and U. S. Ambassador George Messersmith.

SIDE GLANCES

BY TRIBUNE REPORTERS
Claude Haggard participating in a bicycle party that ended with a steak feed at the Bert Elliott farm.

Coaches Ed Ellertson of Prospect and Dwight Catherwood of Phoenix talking over the potentialities of their baseball teams.

Edith Nichols of the city supe's office refusing to forecast the weather for fear she might reveal military information.

Sid Jones and George Robertson going into not-too-severe training for their gigantic forthcoming tennis duel while Russ Olson, the promoter, busily makes final arrangements.

An Arnold Lane resident telling how one of his pet mallards was killed by a "ten-cent sport" who saw it by the side of the road, stopped his car and shot it.

ALLIED STRENGTH IS CHALLENGED BY HUGE SEA FORCE

Churchill Reveals Enemy Operations at Door of India—Allied Strategy Hinted.

London, April 13.—(P)—Prime Minister Churchill disclosed today that the Japanese are operating in the bay of Bengal with powerful naval forces headed by at least three battleships and five aircraft carriers and including heavy and light cruisers and several flotillas of destroyers.

Reporting to commons on the loss of the aircraft carrier Hermes and the cruisers Dorsetshire and Cornwall, whose sinking by Japanese bombers in the bay of Bengal was announced last week, the premier said the Japanese battleships there included at least one of the modernized, 16-inch-gun Nagato type of 32,720 tons.

It was against this vastly superior force headed for Ceylon, he disclosed, that the Hermes, Dorsetshire and Cornwall were preparing to make their stand when they were sent to the bottom by Japanese bombs.

India Seen Goal
Military observers, commenting on the size of the Japanese naval force, said that it probably had been sent into the bay of Bengal to support Japanese invasion of India.

With such a force, he said, the Japanese could guard the seaward flank of a descent from Burma across the Bengal border into the Ganges basin.

Churchill said thunderstorms and low-hanging clouds which enveloped the Japanese aircraft carriers and warships interfered with British counter-attacks by air.

Nevertheless, he asserted, British bombers, torpedo planes and fighters pressed the attack until all available planes had been knocked out.

CORREGIDOR GUNS SINK JAP BOATS

Washington, April 13.—(P)—The war department reported today that Corregidor's gunners sank a number of small Japanese boats and kept enemy air raiders so high over the Philippine island fortress that bombings in a series of new raids caused only minor damage.

A communique said the Japanese boats were in the harbor of the fishing village of Mariaveles at the tip of the abandoned Bataan peninsula. Several were set afire in addition to those sunk.

Meanwhile, communication between Corregidor and Cebu was cut off for the past 48 hours so Lieutenant General Jonathan M. Wainwright was unable to report on the efforts to beat off an invasion of the central Philippine island, more than 300 miles south of Corregidor.

The communique reported belatedly the sinking by enemy action of two army freight ships, the Liberty and the Meigs.

The Liberty was torpedoed twice by an enemy submarine January 11 when 12 miles from The Netherlands Indies island of Bali. No lives were lost. The vessel was beached and 53 crew men and one passenger were rescued by Dutch planes.

The Meigs was sunk February 19 in a bombing raid on the harbor of Darwin, Australia. One crew member was killed and eight were wounded.

Ten raids were made on Corregidor in the past twenty-four hours, the war department said, raising the total to 22 in the last two days.

HOOD RIVER PEAR TREES FULL BLOOM WEDNESDAY

Hood River, Ore., April 13.—(AP)—Hood River valley pear growers advised tourists today that their orchards would be in bloom beginning Wednesday.

Bataan Creek Serves as Open Air Bath



Army hospital nurses use a creek—the only available sanitary facilities—for bath, laundry and beauty shop—adjacent to one of Bataan's two army hospitals.

5-Year War Minimum Rickenbacker's Guess; Vast Plane Need Told

Mitchel Field, N. Y., April 13.—(P)—Col. Eddie Rickenbacker, American flying ace of the first world war, told the fighters at this air base today that in his opinion "this war will last a minimum of five years, barring miracles, with a possibility of it lasting 10 years."

"And since no navy can function effectively without the superiority or control of the air, which also goes for the land forces of the army," he said, "we will need at least 300,000 pilots to achieve victory—100,000 as instructors and 200,000 combat pilots, scattered over the four corners of the world."

Col. Rickenbacker, who has just completed a 15,000-mile survey flight of all our air combat units, said the men of the U. S. air force "are as full of fire and spirit today as were the minute men of Concord" and added:

"I can tell you without batting an eye that man for man, and plane for plane, Uncle Sam has the greatest aerial fighting machine in the world today."

MINOR SMASHUPS DURING WEEKEND

Two minor traffic mishaps occurred in Medford Saturday evening, according to reports on file.

A coupes of Floyd Hatfield, Medford, and Paul Andrews, Route 4, were involved in an accident on Central avenue near 9th street. A coach operated by Hugh Shellabarger, Jacksonville, and a coupe driven by Dorothy M. Vicens, 1936 Court street, collided at the corner of Central avenue and 8th street.

Passenger cars of Ellsworth Lee Ollom, 235 South River side, and L. G. Foster, 54 Rose avenue, collided at the intersection of Jackson boulevard and Bartlett street Saturday afternoon, according to a report filed Saturday. Autos of W. B. Crenshaw and George Nelson, both of Phoenix, collided on 4th street Friday, according to information filed Saturday.

Anti-Jew Accusation Libelous Says Court

Washington, April 13.—(AP)—The supreme court upheld today a circuit court decision which was interpreted by opposing litigants to hold that under New York law a published charge that a public official holds anti-semitic views is libelous.

The litigation involved a suit brought by Representative Sweeney (D-Ohio) against the Schenectady (N. Y.) Union Publishing company, charging that he had been libeled by statements published in the Schenectady Union Star that he was opposing the appointment of Emerich Burt Freed as federal district judge at Cleveland on the ground that Freed was a Jew.

14 NAVY FLIERS CRASH TO DEATH NEAR LIVERMORE

Livermore, Calif., April 13.—(AP)—Fourteen U. S. navy fliers perished yesterday when two B-24B patrol bombers crashed and burned near each other in the Livermore hills.

A fifteenth man survived, without serious injury.

The crash-dips occurred in foggy weather as the giant land-and-sea ships were flying on an undisclosed mission at a point about 30 miles southeast of their base at the Alameda naval air station.

The 12th naval district headquarters in San Francisco released this list of the dead:

Plane No. 1—
Lieut. Frank S. Fernald;
Lieut. Edward F. Denney;
James M. Wagner, aviation machinists' mate, 1st class;
Henry T. Morgan, aviation machinists' mate, 2nd class;
Roscoe E. Rambo, aviation radioman, 1st class;
Robert A. Frank, radioman, 2nd class;
Plane No. 2—
Lieut. Com. Loren A. Morris;
Charles J. Herriott, radioman, 1st class;

Algie Belcher, aviation machinists' mate, 2nd class;
Robert W. Hastings, aviation chief radioman;

Benjamin F. Johnson, aviation radioman, 3rd class.

The navy withheld the names of the other two dead, one man from each plane, until the next of kin could be notified.

The sole survivor was Earl P. Patrick, 29, aviation machinists' mate, 1st class. He was flung clear when plane No. 2 struck, and was found walking about dazedly, but suffering only from cuts and bruises, by rescue crews reaching the scene.

French Line Closed Waiting Vichy Word

Bern, Switzerland, April 13.—(P)—France's demarkation line frontier, separating the occupied and unoccupied territories, was reported closed today awaiting expected developments from Vichy on collaboration conversations between Marshal Petain and pro-axis former Vice-Premier Pierre Laval.

German dispatches hinted that sensational announcements, possibly including Laval's re-entry into the French cabinet and indefinite postponement of the Riom trial on France's military defeat, may be made tomorrow.

Washington, April 13.—(P)—Congressional action was completed by the house today on legislation to prohibit statements of alcoholic content of wines in advertisements and to fix the maximum penal sum of any bond required for a bonded winery or bonded storeroom at \$50,000.

Tuesday Final Day for Registration to Vote in Primaries

Salem, April 13.—(AP)—Tuesday is the last day on which persons may register in order to vote in the May 15 primary election, but the total registration for the state is expected to be less than the figure for the 1940 primary.

The state elections division said the number would be less for two reasons—thousands of names have been eliminated from Multnomah county's registration books, and there has been no rush to the county registration clerks.

The total registration two years ago was 538,100, including 276,246 Republicans and 254,749 Democrats. The bureau of the census reported that 717,121 Oregonians are eligible to register.

Tomorrow also is the last day for county clerks to send printed election notices to election judges and clerks. These notices must be posted in public places in each precinct.

WAR REFUGEES ON TORPEDOED SHIP

Charleston, S. C., April 13.—(P)—A medium-sized passenger ship with refugees from the war zone in the Far East was torpedoed and sunk off the Atlantic coast Saturday afternoon without the loss of a life.

Quartered here until arrangements could be made for their transfer, the 290 survivors, apparently none the worse for their experience, praised the navy forces responsible for their rescue and described the calm on board when their vessel was attacked.

Japs Cannot Kill American Spirit Says Much-Wounded Sea Captain

Berkeley, Calif., April 13.—(P)—Bombs, machine guns and shrapnel can't destroy the spirit of Americans, Captain Frank S. Link said at his home today after his return from Australia where his ship was shot out from under him.

The 51-year-old captain should know for he was wounded in the neck, shoulder, back, thigh and wrist before he and his crew abandoned the lightly armed freighter Meigs February 19 at the end of a three-day running battle with Japanese planes.

(The war department early today reported that Link died of his wounds, but later announced it was "gratified to advise" that he is alive and recovering.)

A hundred Japanese bombers swarmed over American ships in

the battle at Darwin, the captain said, before the Meigs went down in a boiling stew of her own oil and blood.

Link said he didn't see all the action because he was so busy maneuvering his own ship, but he did see the destroyer Peary and a Matson freighter go down. He saw a Japanese bomb make a direct hit on an American munitions ship. He ducked to avoid the falling fragments.

"But nothing came down," he said. "That ship was blown to dust."

The officer spoke with a rasping voice, the result of a machine gun slug a fraction of an inch from his windpipe.

He was first injured by a bomb that struck the ship 20 feet from him. The bomb killed John Cleborne, 23, Orinda, Cal., only member of the crew lost.

Russia Warns Japanese To Observe All Phases Of Nonaggression Pact

ROOSEVELT PLANS EARLY ACTION TO HALT INFLATION

Special Message to Congress Expected in Fortnight—Method Undecided

Washington, April 13.—(P)—President Roosevelt got down to "spade work" today on the issue of checking an inflation spiral, and there were indications he would direct a special message to congress on the subject within a fortnight.

While it was emphasized that final decisions had not been reached on the method of attacking inflation and the corollary problems of taxes, credit, wages and prices, Mr. Roosevelt had only two appointments today and the White House said he would restrict engagements for the rest of the week so as to have an "opportunity" to do much spade work along the lines that he gave at a recent press conference.

Among the points of attack against inflation understood to be under consideration are restrictions on wage increases, boosting the tax bill beyond the \$7,600,000,000 level now contemplated, freezing all prices or imposing a ceiling on them, greater curtailment of retail credit control and installment purchasing, more stringent rationing of scarce goods and commodities, and perhaps compulsory savings through investments in war savings bonds.

HULL AND PEIPER NAMED TO OFFICE

Portland, April 13.—(P)—The Oregon Commercial Secretaries Association Saturday elected Arthur J. Farmer, manager of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, as president.

Frank Hull, Medford, was named vice-president; Dean Peiper, Ashland, secretary-treasurer; and James Baker, Marshfield, Fred Brenne, Eugene, Carl Curcio, Albany, Don Peoples, Bend, Earl Reynolds, Klamath Falls, and Ralph Buynes, Oregon City, directors.

Mr. Hull is manager of the Jackson County Chamber of Commerce and Mr. Peiper is secretary of the Ashland chamber.

Duce Hysterical, Italy in Chaos, London Is Told

London, April 13.—A special correspondent of the Daily Mail on the Italian frontier cabled today that Premier Mussolini was found in a state of "complete prostration" when examined by a specialist.

The dispatch said: "During the interview Duce sobbed bitterly, then burst into hysterical laughter. The specialist said Mussolini had lost all control of himself and no longer was able to manage his affairs as dictator of Italy, which now are reported in a chaotic condition."

FOUR SHIPS SUNK OFF BRAZIL COAST

Fortaleza, Brazil, April 13.—(AP)—Four united nations merchant ships were torpedoed and sunk last week by submarines off the north coast of Brazil, according to reports published today which said that so far there had been no word of survivors from two of the ships.

The ships were identified as the United States tankers T. C. McCob and Eugene V. R. Thayer, the Norwegian merchantman Balkis and the British merchantman Peregrine.

The published reports said there had been no word yet of survivors of the T. C. McCob or the Peregrine.

Twenty-six from the Eugene V. R. Thayer were brought ashore. Nine members of the crew were missing.

The Norwegian consul here said 24 survivors of the Balkis were brought ashore by a Swedish ship.

LABOR-EMPLOYER FREEZE IS URGED

Washington, April 13.—(AP)—Rear Admiral Emory S. Land, chairman of the maritime commission, advocated today "some form of freezing" labor and employer relationship to "do away with what I call this daily agitation."

Land told the house naval committee he believed open shop agreements, closed shop agreements, and all other agreements between labor and management should be frozen in their present status "for the duration of the war."

PRAVDA HITS AT JAP 'BLABBERING' ABOUT INVASION

Reds Display Confidence by Bold Declaration—Nazi Air Force Boosts Tempo.

By the Associated Press
In apparently growing conviction that the Red army holds the whiphand on Russia's European front, one of the leading mouthpieces of Russian policy declared sharply today that Japanese "blabbering" about invasion in the Russian east "might damage, first of all and most of all, Japan herself."

Thus, Pravda, newspaper organ of the communist party, oddly observed the first anniversary of the signing of the Japanese-Russian neutrality pact, the basis of the uneasy peace between the two powers and striking in similarity to the Russian-German nonaggression pact which Germany voided by invasion of the Soviet union last June.

Pravda firmly warned Japan to live up to all ramifications of the agreement.

The anniversary and the editorial came while the new Japanese ambassador Naotake Sato, and the new United States ambassador, Admiral William H. Standley, were in Moscow to present their credentials.

How much of Russia's confidence depended on the possibility of a second European front was a question. There have been repeated calls that the axis thus be diverted to facilitate Russia's position against Germany.

The RAF smashed at axis airmen in Germany and Italy during the night.

Not a bomber was reported lost on the 1,500-mile roundtrip foray against Turin, a munitions-making center of southern Italy, but at least 10 bombers and one fighter were lost in the sweeps to Essen's Krupp works, docks at Le Havre, France, and airdromes in France and the low countries.

The British acknowledged those losses, and the German high command put the cost of the last 24 hours of RAF offensive action over Europe at 24—15 downed by day and nine by night.

The German air force increased its pace on the Russian front, in support of light counter-attacks by infantry and tanks in a general attempt to feel out the depth of the Red army's positions. Warm weather and slush prevailed in the principal fighting areas.

BOMBER CARRIES THREE TO DEATH

Midland, Tex., April 13.—(P)—The army announced today that three men were killed last night in the crash of a twin-engine bomber five miles south of the Midland bombardier school.

The dead:
Second Lieut. Frank C. Hamilton, 24, pilot, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clayton V. Hamilton, Beverly Hills, Calif.

Cadet Thomas L. Schade, 23, bombardier son of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Schade, Nashville, Tenn. Pvt. Lloyd J. Leblanch, 21, mechanic, son of Mrs. Edward H. Leblanch, Church Point, La.

Washington, April 13.—(AP)—Senator Wallgren (D-Wash.) announced today that the war department would construct 1,000-bed hospitals at Spokane and Walla Walla, at a cost of approximately \$3,500,000 each.