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AXIS FOES SUFFER SETBACK IN VICHY

Where Will Japanese Strike Next?

Allied strategists studied reports from all fronts today for clues as to how Japan will use its troops now released from the Philippine war. Among the possibilities discussed in Washington were: (1) A surprise attack on Russia; (2) grand scale thrust at Hawaii; (3) invasion of Australia; (4) an attempt to clean up the China war quickly; (5) or a reinforced drive into Burma and India.

LAVAL, DARLAN TO BE GIVEN SEATS IN NEW CABINET

Riom Trials Also Suspended—Stronger Measures Seen Necessary By Allies.

Laval Termed Judas
Washington, April 14.—(AP)—An authoritative source said today that the sudden return of axis admiral Pierre Laval to power in Vichy "obviously" called for a complete re-examination of United States relations with the Vichy French government. United States seizure of French possessions was demanded in the house as a reply to plans of Vichy France for a new government embracing axis admiral Pierre Laval. "Today a traitor received his thirty pieces of silver," commented Rep. Poage (D-Tex.), who described Laval as "the enemy of all free people."

GRANTS PASS BUS SERVICE TO CAMP IS DISCONTINUED

Action Due to Lack of Patronage—Ashland Service Stepped Up To 7 Trips.

Because of lack of patronage, the Rogue Valley Transit company has discontinued its bus service between Grants Pass and Camp White, while at the same time increasing to seven buses daily its service between Ashland and the cantonment to take care of the large number of workmen residing in Ashland. In order to retain its franchise for Grants Pass-Camp White operations, however, the transit company will run one bus between these points each month, according to A. L. Schneider, manager.

JAPANESE FIND HARD GOING IN CEBU INVASION

Outnumbered Americans and Filipinos Put Up Stubborn Resistance—RAF Scores.

By Roger D. Greene
Associated Press War Editor
Greatly outnumbered American and Filipino troops were officially reported putting up stubborn resistance to Japanese invasion forces today on Cebu island, in the central Philippines, while Lieut. Gen. Jonathan Wainwright's defenders of Corregidor underwent four more assaults by Japanese bombers. The Japanese force on Cebu, 250 miles south of Manila, was estimated at 12,000.

Fought Japs



Lieut. Jesse H. Hague of Adel, Ia., told of one U. S. squadron which shot down Japs at the rate of two for one in sky-fighting over the Netherlands East Indies in a dispatch from "somewhere in Australia."

RED ARMIES OPEN DEEP BREACH IN GERMAN DEFENSE

Timoshenko Scores Near Kharkov—Continent Invasion Expected by Nazis.

By Associated Press
A Stockholm radio broadcast today said Marshal Semeon Timoshenko's Red armies in the Ukraine had forced a "deep breach" in the German lines 25 miles north of the great steel city of Kharkov. German reports also indicated that the Russians had opened a big-scale new offensive on the Moscow front and had pierced Nazi defenses at some points. Meanwhile, reports reaching London from neutral European capitals indicated that Adolf Hitler's high command was resigned to an impending allied invasion of the continent and afraid that the attack would strike at an unexpected point.

News Behind The News

By Paul Mallon



Paul Mallon

Washington, April 14.—A certain sluggishness within the Nazi military is now visible to the eye. General Rommel's drive in Libya should have been started weeks before if the Nazi war machine was still clicking at its old-time pace. His preparations were not well concealed and lagged behind former Hitler tempo. Now he has only about six weeks left before sweltering desert heat joins the side of the British defenders on the near east.

The Russians have lately picked up some German prisoners with no more than five or six weeks' training. It is murder to send men with no more experience into battle, even to fill out depleted units, as is apparently being done. Certainly the German general staff would not be using them anywhere if manpower was not a pressing problem.

INDIAN GAS LOW
New Delhi, April 14.—(AP)—India's basic gasoline ration, which permits fuel for 100 miles of driving a month, was reduced one-third effective May 1 by government order today.

SIDE GLANCES

Clarence Wimer turning soup into good old Irish stew. "Bill 'Squeaky' Saunby, Rose avenue's glamour baby, winning hearts right and left with his smile. Earl Newbury around town sawing wood for the construction of his political fence.

Knockout Blow For China Jap Aim In Burma Drive Is Belief of MacKenzie

BY DEWITT MACKENZIE
Wide World War Analyst

With the compass being boxed by speculation as to where the Japanese are likely to strike next, attention has been diverted from one of the great allied danger spots in which the Japanese already are achieving success, and that is in their fierce drive through the Burmese back-door to China.

There are, of course, several offensives which the Japanese might undertake—against India, Australia, Russian Siberia—but there's one thing about which they can be dead sure—that they intend to conquer China. After all, China is the key-stone of their grandiose expansionist program. Hence their assault on Burma, which is a matter of anxiety for the allies.

Famed Burma Road Already Blocked

Already the Japs have overrun lower Burma, blocking the famous Burma road over which China was getting all her military supplies from the outside world; they have fought their way up the Irrawaddy river into the oil fields upon which the Chinese have been depending for their vital oil supply; and unless the invaders can be held there, they may stagger the world by putting an army into Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek's capital of Chungking and overrunning all the rest of southern China.

China certainly would be hard hit by such a triple tragedy—loss of her lifeline to the outside world, loss of the oil which is essential to war, and loss of the rich southern territory upon which she depends so much for food and minerals. Yet those losses surely represent the goal of the Japanese, who today are reported to have made still further gains in Burma.

British Premier Churchill's disclosure in the house of commons that the Japanese are operating a great naval and air fleet in the Bay of Bengal, between Burma and India, fits in perfectly with Japan's designs on China. Of course, it's quite possible that this fleet prefigures an attempted invasion of India, but it certainly means that the Japanese intend to cut the American and British sea communications, since that helps consolidate the invaders' position in Burma.

Aim to Cut Allied Lanes to Mid-East
Undoubtedly, the Japs also are bent on more extensive naval and air operations, reaching throughout the Indian ocean and calculated to cut allied shipping lanes with the whole Middle East. Recognition of today's news that Iran (Persia) has broken off relations with Japan. The allies are getting set for action. As for an Indian invasion, occupation of the eastern part of

Seek Lower Fare

Ashland's campaign to procure a 40-cent round-trip bus rate between there and the cantonment, a necessary requirement if Ashland is to be designated as a defense housing critical area, was being pushed this week.

Meet Next Thursday

The announcement said the three leaders met today and decided on "the constitution of a government established on new foundations." Their next meeting was set for Thursday when, presumably, the places of Laval and Darlan will be allotted.

DRIVE FOR BOOKS TO REACH CLIMAX HERE NEXT FRIDAY

There will be no special drive to collect books in Medford next Friday, proclaimed "Victory Book Day" by President Roosevelt, Fay E. Woolsey, Medford city librarian, said today.

A drive for books to send to army camps has been under way since the first of March and the collection is being made through the agencies of public libraries, Safeway stores, Standard Oil stations and the Boy and Girl Scouts.

Friday, April 17, will bring special emphasis to that drive when Americans everywhere will be asked to give all books they can spare to the armed forces. However, according to Miss Woolsey, the drive will not end on that date but will continue as long as the nation is at war.

Many books are being turned in but many more are needed. About 750 books have been turned into the Medford public library and have been sent to the state library in Salem. Scout headquarters said today that those who had books to contribute could have them picked up by Scouts upon notification of headquarters by phone, 2350.

BASEBALL

National	R	H	E.
Pittsburgh	4	7	0
Cincinnati	2	6	2

Butcher and Lopez; Walters and Hensley.

CALL JURY FOR MONDAY SESSION

The circuit court petit jury has been summoned to report next Monday at 9:30 a. m. to hear the civil suit of Corintha E. Staley against J. B. Thomas, to recover money. The case has been pending for several months.

"Tex" Oliver Now Officer in Navy

Eugene, April 14.—(AP)—Gerard A. "Tex" Oliver today officially became a lieutenant commander in the United States navy when he was sworn in here.

Vichy Officials Back-Pedal On Sassy Statement to U. S.

Vichy, Unoccupied France, April 14.—(AP)—The French government issued a statement today declaring it had rejected the "injurious" terms of a note of the United States government explaining its establishment of a consulate-general in Free French Equatorial Africa, but half an hour later urgently requested correspondents to withdraw the story from publication.

Portland Police Will Join Union

Portland, April 14.—(AP)—The Oregon Journal said today a charter in the State, County and Municipal Employees' union, Local 88, AFL, will be issued shortly to an organization of Portland policemen.

COLONEL COWGILL GAINS PROMOTION IN GUARD SERVICE

Salem, April 14.—(AP)—Governor Sprague today promoted Colonel Ralph P. Cowgill, Portland, state guard commander, to brigadier general.

Many Jap Captives

Imperial Tokyo headquarters asserted today that Japan's invasion armies had captured 40,000 prisoners, including 15 German soldiers, since the beginning of the Bataan offensive in the Philippines, while on the Burma front British headquarters acknowledged a dangerous new Japanese thrust toward the central Burma oil fields.

TOP PRIORITY GIVEN MINING ENTERPRISES

Washington, April 14.—(AP)—Mining enterprises were granted a top war priority rating by WPB today to assist them in obtaining explosives and explosive equipment.

Office Open Late FOR REGISTRATION

The county clerk's office in the court house will be open until 8 o'clock tonight to accommodate last minute registrants for the May primary election.

Fast on the heels of the statement came the urgent official request for its cancellation, which was not immediately explained.

The statement said that the American government's note was "couched in injurious terms," and that its presentation had been under "unusual" conditions.

French officials said the word "insolent" for the French "insolite" was a poor translation and that the word "unusual" was better.

(There was no immediate indication whether the use of the word "insolent" in some dispatches might have caused officials to request that publication of the statement be cancelled.)

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The enemy, which suffered heavy losses in killed and wounded, retreated," the Italian high command said.

Other developments in the European war theater included: British Exchange Telegraph quoted the Berlin radio as announcing that six Soviet divisions (perhaps 80,000 troops), including an entire tank division, succeeded in dislodging German lines at some points and that the battle was still in progress.

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