

JAP RESISTANCE BUNA AREA CRUSHED

Kelly's Comment

From Washington, D. C.

Army To Start Training Boys

Grand WPA Plan Waiting Lehman

Nylon Bristles Replace Imports

By John W. Kelly

Washington, D. C., Jan. 2.—For almost a year the brass hats had been denying that they had any designs on the boys in high school, sniffed at the idea of using teen-year-olds in college. Now the army has "come clean" and announced a program that will begin giving special training to boys as soon as they leave the grades and enter high school. The military forces intend taking over the youngsters at about the age of 14 and preparing them for induction into the army when they are 18. For the high school kids the program calls for vocational training rather than academic.

Greater weight will be given instruction in mechanics, electricity and radio than English literature and composition. Army contends that boys of high school age like to "make things" and will quickly adapt themselves to vocational training. Four years instruction in mechanics will be invaluable when the students are 18 and ready to be sent to college by the army or into service.

Parents, of course, will protest but their objections will be brushed aside by the brass hats. The plan sheds light on one point: the length of time the high command believes it will be necessary to win the global war. And another prediction: look for the time when 19-year-old boys are trained as pilots and become veterans by the time they are 21.

COLONIAL administration is being taught at one of the universities in the east. Similar instruction will be taken up at other schools in the near future, with at least one institution on the west coast dealing with the subject. The government knows that as occupied countries are taken over it will be necessary to install qualified army officers to administer the affairs of the country until such time as the natives are in position to assume this responsibility. This requires specialized instruction and also familiarity with the customs of each country that is taken over.

SEN. TAFT URGES DURATION TAXES

Washington, Jan. 2.—(U.P.)—Sen. Robert A. Taft, R., O., said tonight the new congress should start work immediately after convening next week on a new tax bill which could stand unchanged for the duration of the war.

"I think the joint congressional tax committee should proceed immediately with a tax plan without waiting either for the treasury or the March returns," he told reporters.

"I think we're at the point where we can draw up a permanent tax program for the war period—and the sooner the people know what it is, the better."

SECOND FRONT IN EUROPE FAVORED

Manchester, Jan. 2.—(U.P.)—Denis N. Pritt, Socialist member of Commons, urged in a speech today that the allies open a second front in Europe to eliminate the possibility of Axis advances in a new offensive in Russia next spring.

Asserting that Europe is the only place where Adolf Hitler can be decisively beaten, Pritt said a large scale allied landing in Italy, or elsewhere on the continent "obviously" would seal Der Fuehrer's fate.

AERIAL ASSAULTS UPON KISKA GAIN AS ENEMY ACTIVE

Yankee Subs Take Toll Of Jap Shipping — Pacific Bases Blasted.

Washington, Jan. 2.—(U.P.)—U. S. submarines have sunk seven additional Japanese ships and U. S. planes have carried out destructive raids upon Japanese bases at both ends of the Pacific front, the navy announced today.

The newest report of submarine activity in Pacific and Far Eastern waters brought the total of enemy vessels sunk by U. S. submarines to 112, with 22 others probably sunk and 29 damaged.

In the air, the most important news was from the Aleutians where American planes intensified assaults against the enemy's submarine base at Kiska following the sudden strengthening of the island's fighter plane defenses.

General MacArthur's headquarters, Australia, Jan. 3.—(Sunday) —(U.P.)—Allied troops rolled through the cocoanut groves on the right of the Buna area Friday and delivered a general assault which crushed Japanese resistance today's communique reported.

Describing action in the Buna area, the communique said, "On the right, our troops, in a general assault, have broken the back of enemy resistance and are destroying his shattered forces."

The assault was made west of Gairopa, one of the three main segments of Japanese resistance in the Buna sector.

"The attack was completely successful," an allied spokesman said. "The enemy was divided into small groups which are being quickly reduced."

Some Japanese were observed swimming, with the aid of life belts or logs, from the Gairopa area toward the government station. Others evidently were trying to escape by swimming from the government station westward.

The allied assault was opened behind an artillery barrage and tank screen which pulverized the enemy strong points.

Operations of the past few days may be summarized thus:

1. Early in the week an allied column drove a wedge through the government gardens, reaching the beach between the mission and Gairopa.
2. A second column, attacking from the air strip area, drove another corridor to the sea at Gairopa Point Friday, thereby dividing the Japanese forces into three segments.
3. The latest assault was launched from the Gairopa corridor westward along the coast toward the first corridor.

The infantry now mopping up in this area may be assumed to be two allied forces which shortly will establish contact, although this has not been claimed as yet.

WILLKIE ASSAILS WALLACE'S TALKS

New York, Jan. 2.—(U.P.)—Wendell Willkie took issue indirectly today with Vice-President Wallace's recent speeches on post-war international cooperation, asserting that peace aims were a "mere dream" unless they were developed by a "common council" while the war is being fought.

"I have been quite deliberately provoking our official leaders to discuss such questions," the 1940 Republican presidential candidate said at a victory rally at the Metropolitan opera house.

"It is idle to talk," he continued, "about creating after the war is over a machinery for preventing economic warfare and promoting peace between nations, unless the parts of that machinery have been assembled under the unifying effort and common purpose of seeking to defeat the enemy."

Triple Drive Threatens Rommel



A new threat to Nazi Marshal Erwin Rommel's battered Afrika Korps turned up when a communique from the long-unreported Fighting French force from Lake Chad indicated that the powerful mechanized units were only 450 miles south of Tripoli and striking northward. Meanwhile, an American column in Tunisia moved to cut off Rommel's westward retreat by driving toward the important port of Gabes. On the east, the British Eighth Army continued to close in on Tripoli.

COOS BAY BOMBER CRASH CLAIMS 7; SURVIVOR FOUND

San Francisco, Jan. 2.—(U.P.)—Seven crew members of a big navy PBV patrol bomber which crashed into the ocean off Coos Bay, Ore., Thursday night were officially listed as missing to-night by the navy.

Ensign Roderick McLeod Brush, of Jacksonville, Fla., was the sole known survivor of the crash. He was found unconscious on a cliff along the Oregon coast, and taken to a hospital at Waldport, Ore., on serious condition.

The navy listed as missing: Lieut. James E. Breeding, plane captain, McMinnville, Ore.; Ensign Alvin L. Chamberlin 2nd pilot, Yakima, Wash.; Loyd Helming, AMML-C, Des Moines, Iowa; Howard Stanley Gordon, ARML-C, Hastings, Neb.; George Franklin O'Callaghan, ARML-C, Tupelo, Miss.; Henry LeRoy Burtz, AMML-C, Langley, S. C.; Newell Smith, SK-2-C, Seattle, Wash.

A widespread search for the missing fliers by ground parties and the coast guard will be continued, the navy said.

Two life rafts and one life jacket were found on the beach where Brush was found, and the navy said it was possible other crewmen had reached shore.

The plane crashed about 7:30 p. m. Thursday in heavy seas about a mile offshore.

PUBLIC DEBT NOW OVER 112 BILLION

Washington, Jan. 2.—(U.P.)—Secretary of Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., announced today that December's victory fund drive netted a record-breaking total of \$12,906,000,000.

His announcement coincided with disclosure in the treasury's daily statement that the United States public debt of \$112,470,920,266.79 — exactly \$48,108,783,114.57 more than at the close of 1941.

"The \$12,906,000,000 of borrowing is a reflection of the scale in which the war is being carried to the enemy in our growing offensives," Morgenthau said.

Belfast, Northern Ireland, Jan. 2.—(U.P.)—Police magistrate John Campbell today urged American authorities to investigate the bootleg sale to American soldiers of an Irish brand of "fire-water" which has the kick of a mule and provides a fortnight of headaches.

HALSEY PREDICTS VICTORY; ATTACK ON JAPAN PROPER

Mikado And Tokyo War Lords Taunted By Pacific Commander.

With the U. S. Fleet in the South Pacific, Dec. 31.—(Delayed) (U.P.)—Admiral William H. Halsey, commander in chief of the U. S. naval forces in the southwest Pacific, today predicted complete victory for the United Nations over the Axis in 1943, and directed this warning to Tokyo:

"Hirohito, your time is short!"

The fighting admiral, who won smashing naval victories over the Japanese in the Solomon campaign, promised the enemy that the distant rumbling of the 1943 Allied offensive will grow into a shriek of bursting bombs and falling shells upon Japan proper.

"We have the initiative," the grim-faced, gray-haired veteran pounded home in an interview. "Hirohito, your time is short."

"Admiral Yamamoto (commander of the Jap fleet), you will be present at a dictated peace in the White House, but it will not be as you envisage."

"To Tojo (Japanese war lord premier), when you unleashed your attack on Pearl Harbor, you started something which will make you wish you had died when you were a baby," Adm. Halsey declared.

"To the Japanese people, you are hearing the distant rumbling now of the handwriting on the wall. This rumbling will grow into the shriek of bursting bombs and falling shells and clashing of swords on your own soil."

Wearing no necktie, Adm. Halsey tore into his predictions for 1943, warning the Axis, "We are just starting now. We have the initiative—and we won't stop at Rabaul."

Rabaul, Japanese base on New Britain island, is under persistent bombing by Allied planes and has been mentioned as the next step in the Allied south Pacific offensive after the Japs are driven from New Guinea.

Japs are getting harder and harder to find, the admiral commented.

GERMANY ADMITS CRUISER LOST IN FAR NORTH FRAY

London, Jan. 2.—(U.P.)—The story of a naval battle in European waters began to take form tonight as Germany admitted loss of an auxiliary cruiser and a destroyer, while Britain conceded the sinking of a corvette.

The German high command had issued a communique giving the first Axis version of a naval battle which previously had been described vaguely by the British.

The Germans said the engagement took place Thursday near Bear Island, 315 miles south of Cape South, Spitzbergen, that it lasted several hours, and that German cruisers damaged several Allied cruisers and destroyers.

The communique, broadcast by DNB, admitted loss of one destroyer and claimed destruction of one Allied destroyer.

The British admiralty, which declined to comment on the German communique, previously had announced merely that a battle was underway and that considerable damage had been done to a German cruiser and destroyer. The latter was left in a sinking condition, the admiralty said.

The German high command said merely that the auxiliary cruiser was lost in an engagement with a British cruiser of the 9,805-ton Devonshire type. The high command said the auxiliary cruiser was of the Atlantis type, which is not listed in available shipping handbooks.

LOG JAM MENACES PORTLAND HARBOR; FLOOD CREST DUE

Break In Oregon City Dam Serious—Many Homeless In Springfield Area.

Portland, Ore., Jan. 2.—(U.P.)—Harbor crews rounded up hundreds of logs above the industry-thrugged Portland harbor today to avert a serious jam in the flood-swollen Willamette river.

More than a million feet of timber, officials estimated, rolled through a crack in a wing-dam at Oregon City, 14 miles above Portland, but hastily mobilized rivermen corralled the floating logs into small clusters to keep them from jamming bridges and seawalls.

Additional thousands of logs were reported by the coast guard to be rolling down the stream from points above Oregon City, but no serious log jams were reported yet.

Meanwhile, residents of Eugene, in the southern Willamette valley, began returning to their homes tonight as the river dropped to 12.2 feet, only a little above flood stage. However, in the West Springfield area, hundreds were still homeless because of bad sanitary conditions.

Red Cross disaster relief committees were completing arrangements to care for the homeless.

The flood crest of about 21 feet is expected to reach Portland early tomorrow morning, but the harbor seawall, erected some years ago after a previous flood, could withstand a top level of 29 feet.

Another death from the floods was reported today, making the toll seven. The latest victim was John Heffner, a farmer on a small island near Corvallis, who was drowned when his rowboat overturned after he had removed his wife and children to safety.

Portland's war industries were not disrupted as yet by the high waters except for the sub-chaser yards of the Albina Engine and Machine Works, where 300 welders were barred from their jobs by high water in the ways of the plant.

(By United Press)

The Ohio river left many thousands homeless in its wake and caused damage estimated at \$2,500,000 to cities on its banks as the crest swept through Portsmouth.

Thousands of refugees upstream from Portsmouth returned to their homes but other thousands downstream evacuated lowlands as the flood crest of about 62 feet moved toward Cincinnati.

The Ohio visited destruction on the valleys of West Virginia, Indiana, Kentucky and threatened southern Illinois.

CONGRESS AWAITS ANNUAL MESSAGE COMING THURSDAY

Washington, Jan. 2.—(U.P.)—Representatives and senators were drifting back to the capital tonight for the opening of a new congress expected to claim a more direct share in the formulation of war policy.

The 78th congress—whose predecessor wound up its business Dec. 16 after a flurry of filibusters had made further legislative progress impossible—faces the problems of the new year with democratic majorities in both houses cut to their lowest point since President Roosevelt entered the White House in 1933.

Mr. Roosevelt is expected to deliver his annual message on the state of the Union to congress on Thursday and on the following day will send up a budget message expected to call for expenditures in the neighborhood of \$100,000,000,000 in the 1944 fiscal year which begins July 1.

War Bulletins

La Lines, Spain, Jan. 2.—(U.P.) The British aircraft carrier Formidable, two battleships and several other British warships steamed out of Gibraltar tonight, presumably bound for a Mediterranean destination.

The battleships were the Nelson and Rodney. In addition there were several British destroyers and cruisers and two French warships.

Heavy air activity continued day and night on the Rock. Recent landings included a number of Boeing Flying Fortresses.

Allied North African Headman dive bombers, escorted by Focke-Wulf-190s, attacked Bone Harbor, important Allied Algerian supply port, yesterday morning despite stiff opposition from British Spitfires. It was disclosed today.

Two additional groups of German planes attempted to raid Bone in the afternoon, but were intercepted by Allied aircraft before they could reach their target. Three Focke-Wulf-190s and a Junkers-87 were destroyed by the defending planes and others were damaged.

Information from diplomatic agents aboard accurately forecast the war policies of Japan, Germany, and Italy, even to the warning of a surprise mass attack upon Pearl Harbor, it disclosed.

The publication, entitled "Peace and War", placed the blame for the war squarely upon the Axis powers. It said that while this government's information convinced President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Cordell Hull that an ultimate attack upon the United States was inevitable, public opinion here lagged behind in an attitude of "illusory aloofness."

The stars of America's keen diplomatic reporting were Joseph C. Grew from Tokyo, George S. Messersmith from Berlin and Breckinridge Long from Rome.

Grew, the U. S. ambassador in Japan, kept the department fully informed of the dangers inherent in Japan's ambitions for Asiatic domination. On January 27, 1941, he told the department of reports from many sources that Japanese military forces planned a surprise mass attack on Pearl Harbor in case of "trouble" with the United States.

As far back as December 27, 1939, Grew said it would be "criminally shortsighted" to discard from calculations the possibility of war with Japan.

On November 3, 1941, he warned of Japanese preparations for measures which might make inevitable a war with the United States. Two weeks later—three weeks before Pearl Harbor—Grew cabled from Tokyo that the Japanese probably would resort to surprise measures.

Messersmith, now U. S. ambassador to Mexico, was consul general in Berlin on June 26, 1933, when, in a letter to the department, he reported a "dangerous situation" in Germany.

On November 23, 1933, Messersmith said leaders of Germany had no desire for peace unless it was a peace in compliance with German ambitions.

Breckinridge Long, then U. S. ambassador to Italy, predicted Italy's 1935 attack on Ethiopia more than a year in advance.

When it became apparent in early 1940 that Italy was planning to join Germany as an active war partner, Mr. Roosevelt made numerous efforts to dissuade Mussolini. Finally, on June 1, Mussolini confirmed Italy's decision to enter the war and said he preferred not to receive any "further pressure" from the President.

The white book related details of the diplomatic discussions with Japan prior to Pearl Harbor. It showed that Japan was deliberately plotting war while making protestations of peace.

Reds Near Latvian Frontier Substantial Gain Near Stalingrad—Much Booty.

Moscow, Sunday, Jan. 3.—(U.P.)—Soviet troops forged ahead west of Velikie Luki today, driving the Germans back toward the Latvian frontier, while other red army units pressed forward in the Caucasus, around Stalingrad and along the middle Don.

The Russian midnight communique reported that Soviet troops dislodged German forces from a fortified position west of Valikie Luki, destroying five enemy tanks and killing 160 Axis soldiers. Front dispatches indicated, meanwhile, that the Russians had advanced 24 miles to Novosokolniki, only 60 miles from the Latvian frontier.

Substantial gains were reported south and southwest of Stalingrad and in the northern Caucasus, southeast of Nalchik.

Red army units captured the district center of Elkhoto, 35 miles southeast of Nalchik and 10 miles due north of Alagir. Elkhoto is an important town on the Rostov-Daku railroad and its capture represented another sizeable gain for the Russians.

South and southwest of Stalingrad, Soviet troops drove ahead, occupying several inhabited localities, among them Dubovskoye and the railway station at Remontnaya, the midnight communique said. The capture of the rail station at Remontnaya represented a new advance southward from Kotelnikowski, the chief German base southwest of Stalingrad, which fell to the Russians last week. Remontnaya is 26 miles southwest of Kotelnikowski on the Stalingrad-Tikhoretsk railroad.

"In the fighting for Dubovskoye and the railway station at Remontnaya," the communique said, "large booty was captured, among which are many tanks, artillery, food stores, war material and cattle."

ARMY FEARS CONGRESS
Washington, Jan. 2.—(U.P.)—The army has become seriously concerned over the possibility that congress may take from it control of procurement and production of planes, weapons and other war material and hand it over to some civilian authority.

Adolf Shuffles Diplomats (By United Press)
Adolf Hitler has reshuffled three important diplomatic posts, naming men considered closer to the Nazi party as ambassadors to Spain and Japan and minister to Sweden, the Berlin radio announced tonight.

AMERICA WARNED MONTHS AHEAD OF AXIS AGGRESSION

State Department White Book Reveals Diplomatic Secrets—Know Jap Plans

Washington, Jan. 2.—(U.P.)—The United States had ample advance warning of all moves of aggression by the Axis powers in their program of world conquest, the state department revealed tonight in a white book dealing with secret and open diplomacy of the decade preceding Pearl Harbor.

Information from diplomatic agents aboard accurately forecast the war policies of Japan, Germany, and Italy, even to the warning of a surprise mass attack upon Pearl Harbor, it disclosed.

The publication, entitled "Peace and War", placed the blame for the war squarely upon the Axis powers. It said that while this government's information convinced President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Cordell Hull that an ultimate attack upon the United States was inevitable, public opinion here lagged behind in an attitude of "illusory aloofness."

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