KNOX REPORT LESS SERIOUS THAN RUMORS

By DeWitt MacKENZIE
Wide World War Analyst

Secretary Knox's report on the Pearl harbor affair is bad enough news in all conscience, especially as regards the loss of life and the statement that our services weren't on the alert, but the material damage revealed isn't so bone-crushing as most people had anticipated from the rumors which circulated and grew until they reached gargantuan proportions.

The colonel is a direct actionist and has tackled his uncomfortable job after that fashion. His bluntly told story is calculated to remove fears and restore confidence not only at home but among our allies who also have been living on bugbear rumors for the past week.

The manner in which Knox has made his investigation and handled his report reminds me of one day in London some years ago. The colonel, with the London correspondent on his Chicago Daily News, Negley Farson, and I were facing the necessity of getting across the city in a little open car which wouldn't hold more than two people no matter how much belts were tightened.

The colonel refused a seat, perched himself precariously on the side of the car, with his legs dangling over the side, and thus this distinguished gentleman was carried across one of the world's most conservative cities. That is a mild example of his methods of operation.

Once more the word from Manila is that there has been no change in the position, and that is all to the good, for time fights on our side. Meanwhile we have the assurance that the Pacific fleet is busy and one must assume that almost any hour our defenders in the Far East will be getting assistance.

By the way, a British general here in New York telephoned me to say that his people were thrilled by the magnificent stand being made by our marines at Wake.

There may be bad news for the allies if there is confirmation of the Japanese claim that they have landed an expeditionary force on the coast of British Borneo. This is a highly strategic position, stuck right in the heart of the Philippine-Singapore-Dutch East Indies area.

Borneo would give the Japs a valuable naval and air base from which they could strike readily in all directions. This move is an indication that they may attack the Dutch East Indies in the rear of Singapore without waiting to try to knock the great British base out.

Another British spot which is in trouble is the big naval base and port of Hongkong. The London newspapers today appear to be preparing the public for the loss of this possession which is one of the particularly bright gems in the imperial crown.

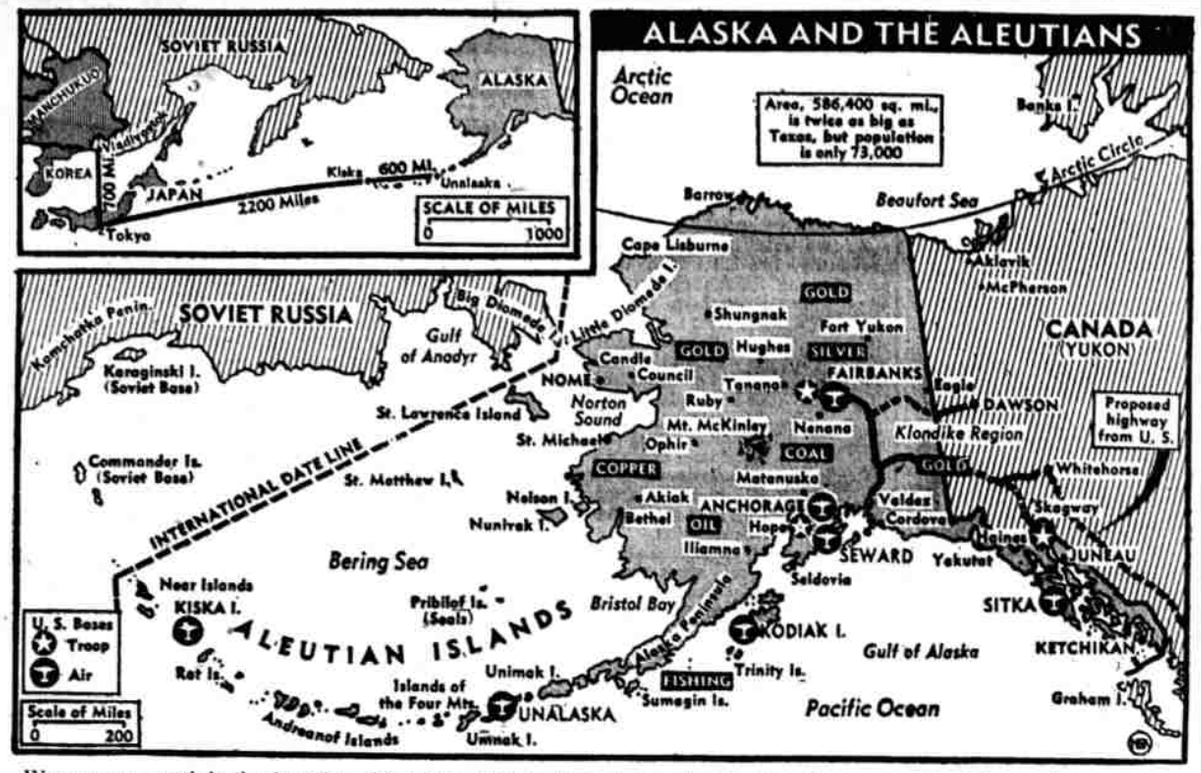
However it can be said that if Hongkong does fall, its loss will not be fatal to the allied set-up in the Far East. It would be a serious blow, of course, but Hongkong's importance is small as compared with Singapore. The Japanese capture of this historic place would mean this:

1. It would deprive the British of their strongest naval base, next to Singapore, in the South China sea.

2. It would remove one prong of the Hongkong-Manila pincers which grip the South China sea.

3. It would deprive the British of a bomber base to reach such places as the Japanese island of Formosa and the Jap-occupied island of Hainan, off the coast of south China.

4. It would give the Japanese an additional air base from which to reach Manila and the rest of the Philippines.



War may go north in the Americas this winter, for Alaska and the Aleutian Islands are closest points on this continent to Japan and the Pacific war theater. Long range U. S. bombers based here could raid Tokyo if allowed to refuel at Vladivostok, while Japan, in turn, might attempt Alaskan invasion.

Two-Man Submarine of Japs Revealed By Navy

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (UP) Japan's so-called secret naval weapon is a tiny, two-man submarine—a "suicide" craft that can loose torpedoes or hurl itself at enemy ships with the same destructive effect of a torpedo, the navy revealed Tuesday.

The secret was exposed by the capture of one of the midgets during the Dec. 7 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

The navy found the pigmy sub "carries a 300-pound charge of high explosives under the stern, wired to the battery so it can be used as a demolition charge either for the submarine itself in case of attack, or against ships or harbor objectives."

The craft also carries two 18-inch torpedoes. Standard size American submarines, some seven times the length of the pigmies, carry 21-inch torpedoes.

There were indications, the navy said, the captured "suicide" sub was launched from a mother ship about 100 miles off the Hawaiian island of Oahu.

Two other Japanese subs—one a midget, the other the conventional type—were sunk during the attack.

Idea Adopted

Describing the suicide element, the navy said "there are indications the personnel operating the submarines will go to any extreme, however desperate, even to self-sacrifice, to carry out their objective."

While the Pearl Harbor attack was the first known instance of their use in modern warfare, the idea is not new. The same idea—in cruder form—was experimented with as far back as the Revolutionary war when Asa Bushnell tried to sink a British man-o-war with a one-man, hand-propelled submarine. Again during the war between the states, the same general idea was adopted. But those experiments backfired when one such one-man submarine was blown up by its own explosives during an attempted attack.

The navy said the Japanese "suicide" subs are of such size they could be carried on the deck of larger craft and launched overside by the same cranes and facilities used for handling the small boats of a combat ship.

They have a cruising radius of 200 miles at low speed and are powered by electric motors with a designated top speed of 24 knots.

Here is how the Japanese Probably will employ the tiny subs:

Base at Small Islands

1—The way they did against Pearl Harbor, dispatching them from mother ships delegated to pick them up later on.

2—Base them at small islands or tiny atolls—which are numerous in the Pacific—to search the sea in the vicinity for enemy warships or supply vessels. The shallow water in the atolls would prevent enemy ships from entering their lair.

3—Possibly in fleet action mother ships going along in the same manner as aircraft carriers, and launching the baby subs at sea. The main Japanese fleet then could feint a withdrawal and leave the little subs as a screen to torpedo the advancing enemy.

Speed-Up Ordered For Bonneville Transmission Lines

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 17 (AP)— Bonneville Administrator Paul J. Raver, anticipating congressional approval of a $30,000,000 appropriation, ordered a speed-up today in construction of transmission lines and substations to meet increasing demands of war production.

He directed that lines be strengthend down the Willamette valley to Oregon City. An additional line will be built to Eugene, making it possible to move power south through connections with the California Oregon Power company and other systems.

Bonneville would take over their loads, permitting them to serve northern California in case of damage to generating plants there.

Raver said William S. Knudsen, OPM chief, had approved the appropriation now pending in congress. It would take care of power requirements for the next six to eight months.

The army has advised that industry must be decentralized, and many future installations are slated for eastern Oregon and Washington, Raver added.

He said industrial applications for power are at an all-time high, one or two additional requests being received daily. They are for aluminum, chrome, phosphate derivatives, chlorine and other metal and chemical plants, many of which are planned east of the Cascades.

Icy Roads Account For Mishaps Here

Snow and icy roads accounted for several minor traffic collisions in the Klamath district Monday and Tuesday. George W. Peck of Route 2 and Manuel Bridges, driver of a school bus, were involved in a minor collision on the Hill road to Merrill. No injuries were reported.

Arthur E. Wolf of Burns and Mrs. Edna Villiquette of Port Orchard, Wash., collided Sunday on snowy highway 97.

Ralph C. LaSalle of 3824 Crest and Louis Brown, 3310 Bristol collided on Altamont Drive early Tuesday morning.

Merchants Warned '42 License Fees Must Be Paid

Establishments in the city which operate under license were advised of the approaching January 1 deadline, last day license fees may be paid without a penalty imposed, according to the police judge's office Tuesday morning. Some fees have been paid.

Licenses are placed on the following: Restaurants, rooming houses, hotels, apartment houses, pool halls, card rooms, soda fountains, taxicabs, barber and beauty shops, bowling alleys, plumbing and electrical contractors and meat dealers.

Swell line of Men's Slippers at The Gun Store — 714 Main.

OLDEST RESIDENT DIES

SALEM, Dec. 17 (AP)— Mrs. Mary Littler, 102, Salem's oldest resident, died at her home today. Born in Ohio, she had lived here since 1910.

Buy the Men Folks what they would buy themselves this Xmas—Hundreds of useful and sensible Gifts at The Gun Store —714 Main.

FRENCH NORMANDIE TAKEN OVER BY U. S.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17 (UP) The United States Tuesday took over the French Luxury liner Normandie, which has been tied up in New York since 1939, but the state department requested there be no speculation about its probable use.

The maritime commission took ownership of the 83,423-ton vessel under existing law and the state department said adequate compensation will be made to the owners.

The department disclosed the United States had been negotiating with France for purchase of the Normandie. The French were willing to sell, it was said, but US entry into the war against the axis rendered impracticable proposed conditions for payment.

Seizure of the Normandie followed the same procedure by which the Swedish vessel Kungsholm and ships of other friendly powers were taken over. The procedure is justified by the law of angary which permits a belligerent to commandeer, on payment of fair compensation, vessels of other nations which may help in its war effort.

The Normandie is one of a dozen French vessels in US ports from which French crews were removed last week as a "precautionary" measure.

64 EXECUTED

LONDON, Dec. 16 (AP)— The German radio, quoting a dispatch from Belgrade, said today that 64 persons, including seven women, had been executed in German-occupied Yugoslavia and 150 persons arrested. The broadcast was heard by Reuters.

Why not a good pair of Hunting or Outdoor Shoes for his Xmas — The Gun Store — 714 Main.

Jap Hangs Self In Stockton

STOCKTON, Calif., Dec. 17 (AP)—Depressed over the American-Japanese war, George Okada, 25-year-old American born Japanese celery packer hanged himself in a bunkhouse Tuesday.

"Everyone is so kind to me here," he wrote in Japanese, "let me die in the United States.

"Winter comes, then spring comes.

"Sadness comes, then gladness comes."

PENNY A PLANE CLUB ORGANIZED

MARSHALL, Tex., Dec. 17 (AP)— Would you give a penny for every enemy plane shot down by United States forces?

That question was asked 203 Marshall citizens. Two hundred answered "yes." The "A Penny a Plane club" resulted. Marshall hopes the idea will spread.

Harry Adams of Marshall, who started the club here and signed up 200 members in four hours, said the plan was outlined to him by a friend from the Argentine.

A South American club rapidly drew 50,000 members, whose contributions made possible the purchase for the British of a fighter plane costing $75,000 each month, Adams was told.

Members—anyone may join—are being asked to drop their contributions in boxes to be put up in public places. Funds will be turned over to the federal government.

A penny a plane doesn't seem like much—but with two million members the receipts on seven planes shot down would be $140,000, Adams pointed out.

"Think how good that will make the fellow who fired the guns feel," he said.

Salem Youth Killed In Raid on Hawaii

SALEM, Dec. 17 (AP)—Ensign Verdi Sederstrom, U.S.N., son of Mr. and Mrs. Oscar F. Sederstrom of Salem, was killed in the Japanese raid on Pearl Harbor, his parents were advised Tuesday.

He was the third Marion county resident to be killed in the war.

He was a graduate of Salem high school and the University of Oregon. He was trained on the Atlantic ast, and left Salem last August after a brief furlough.

WHETHER HE'S YOUR BOY OR YOUR NEIGHBOR'S
Send Him a
BOX OF POLLY ANN ASSORTED GOODIES
A Wide Variety That Will Please Any Boy's Appetite!
Polly Ann BAKERY
Across From New Telephone Building!
111 No. 5th Dial 7777

FOR HIS CHRISTMAS
A GRAYCO TIE
$1.00
DREW'S MANSTORE
733 Main

Your Hands ARE ALWAYS OUT IN FRONT!
Outdoor play—skating, skiing, tobogganing—are fun but they're hard on delicate skin. Chamberlain's—the clear, golden, quick drying lotion—will assist you in keeping skin soft, smooth and lovely. Today, get Chamberlain's Lotion.
Buy it at all Toilet Goods Counters
Chamberlain's LOTION

Your Taste is More Critical Now!
DEMAND
the whiskey blended for the enjoyment of discriminating tastes. A premium whiskey at a
NEW LOW PRICE
G&W 5 Star BLENDED WHISKEY

PINTS $1.15
QUARTS $2.20
75% GRAIN NEUTRAL SPIRITS 86 PROOF
GOODERHAM & WORTS, LTD.
DETROIT, MICHIGAN
Masters of Blend for 109 Years

SO CHRISTMAS MAY COME AGAIN
...TO CHILDREN EVERYWHERE
Give
DEFENSE SAVINGS BONDS AND STAMPS
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF PORTLAND

H. R. (DICK) MAGUIRE
Realtor
Real Estate Sales
Rentals Loans
Property Management
Automobile, Fire, Casualty Insurance
1006 Pine Dial 6212 - 6369

Send
KLAMATH GEM SPUDS
For Christmas!
A nice new 10-pound wooden box of individually GIFT WRAPPED selected Klamath Netted Gem Potatoes, expressed
ANYWHERE IN THE U. S. FOR $1.00
Boost the use of Klamath's own products: Wooden Boxes and Gem Spuds.
A non-profit community service by Klamath Treasure Gem Department of
SWAN LAKE MOULDING CO.
3226 South 6th

GIVE YOUR FAMILY THE BEST GIFT OF ALL — A NEW
DODGE
All Colors, All Body Styles, in Stock
Ready for Immediate Delivery
LOMBARD MOTORS
Dodge — Plymouth — Dodge Trucks
424 South Sixth Phone 3138