

Navy Still Busy In Jap Waters With Smuggling Patrol And Rescue Work

TOKYO, July 2 (AP)—The U. S. Navy has just about demilitarized what's left of the Japanese fleet but it still has work to do in these waters.

Vice Admiral Robert M. Griffin, who commands United States Naval Forces in the Far East, said today there still will be Japanese shipping to watch, and anti-smuggling patrols will have to be maintained along with a hydrographic office and air-sea rescue work.

The show of force in the presence of U. S. warships is not discounted, either.

Griffin intends to call a halt to minesweeping operations. The naval

commander believes most of the mines not destroyed are now ineffective.

The U. S. Navy bombed and torpedoed the bulk of the Japanese fleet in war operations. When occupation forces arrived, however, they found enough combat ships to form a stable flotilla. Many were damaged but could have been repaired.

Carriers scrapped

Japanese working under American direction have scrapped seven aircraft carriers or escort carriers, four cruisers and three auxiliaries which were operable or at least towable at war's end.

Another carrier and cruiser were refloated—and scrapped. One old battleship was raised, and nearly scrapped. Still another carrier is being refloated for scrapping. The Japanese need the steel.

Three other damaged battleships and eight cruisers have been trimmed by acetylene torches of everything above the waterline, reducing them in effect to floating piles of steel. Every operable submarine found after the surrender was towed to sea and sent to the bottom; inoperable undersea craft have been scrapped.

More than 10,000 tons of steel have been realized from the scrapping program, all of which has been handed over to the Japanese for industrial use.

Disposition of most of remaining Japanese combat ships will be carried out this summer with transfer of 92 destroyers and destroyer escorts among the United States, Soviet Russia, Britain and China.

Griffin did not say what the United States intends to do with the vessels it draws. Some will be used for target practice.

Lava Beds Monument Travel Up

Lava Beds national monument is in the midst of one of its biggest travel seasons in its history, according to Don Fisher, monument custodian.

June saw 458 visitors in the Lava Beds, and the year ended June 30 recorded a visitation volume of 30,727 persons as compared with 23,328 the previous year.

Fisher said that about 30 per cent of the travel into the Lava Beds is by cars from other states than California and Oregon. Last month, 33 states, Hawaii, Canada and Egypt were represented.

Roads Improved

Fisher said that considerable road improvement work is being carried on in the Lava Beds. H. S. Shilko, highway engineer for region No. 4 of the national park service, was at the monument last week and approved the maintenance program now under way.

Jim Orr is the permanent ranger at the Lava Beds. Fred Schepman, North Bend school teacher, is spending his fourth summer on the ranger staff. Others working there include Russell Frame, OMC graduate student; William J. Mills, Stanford graduate; Eugene Stuka, University of California; Vivian Tozier, U. of C. graduate student in art who is in the lookout on Schuchin butte; Ralph Maxwell, Klamath Falls, head of the road crew; Bruce Hutchins, Wisconsin; and John Stuka, ex-navy man, members of the road crew.

Two fire guards are yet to be employed.

City Commission Men Face Vote

BEND, July 2 (AP)—Another election here July 22 will determine whether Bend's three-man city commission will remain in office.

In an earlier election here Monday the vote was to abandon the commission and set up a seven-man commission. Voters also approved a city budget carrying a tax levy of \$14.608.

In the July 22 election a charter amendment, proposed by the city commission, will be at stake. It calls for a five-man commission. If voters sustain the seven-man commission in that election, the present commissioners will leave office.

School District To Vote Again

EUGENE, July 2 (AP)—Four rural Lane county school districts will have to vote again on their proposal to consolidate.

The Lane county court, after hearing charges here of "vote rigging" and other irregularities in the June 25 balloting, ruled the election invalid. The vote then was in favor of consolidation. A new date has not been set.

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CARNIVAL

By Dick Turner

Vet's Mail Bag



"You don't have to look daggers at them when they only give a dime, Deacon—we get them at the Friday night bingo parties!"

As a service to veterans in the community, this newspaper will publish an occasional column of news briefs from the veterans administration. For further information, veterans should contact or write their nearest VA contact office at Klamath Falls.

DISABLED VETS GET VOCATIONAL TRAINING

More than 7100 disabled veterans of World War II in the Pacific Northwest are now in training under the provisions of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act. John W. Corrie, Northwest director of the Veterans Administration vocational rehabilitation and education service, reports.

As of June 1, approximately 59 per cent of those in training were enrolled in colleges, universities and other educational institutions. The remaining 41 per cent were taking job training in business and industrial establishments.

In addition to meeting the eligibility requirements for G. I. Bill benefits, a veteran who desires vocational rehabilitation must have a service-connected disability and must show a need for vocational training to overcome his handicap.

Disabled veterans who are interested in vocational rehabilitation should write or visit their nearest VA contact office.

ISSUE DATE IMPORTANT ON G. I. INSURANCE

Veterans who reinstate their National Service Life Insurance policies may allow them to lapse a second time through misunderstanding, the Veterans Administration cautions.

Upon submission of the reinstatement application with accompanying comparative health statement and two monthly premiums, the veteran assumes he has a month before another payment is due. Because the VA cannot change the original day of the month on which the policy was effective, a premium may be due within a week or two, or even a day after reinstatement payments are in the mail.

Thus, a veteran whose effective date is on the first of the month may reinstate on the twenty-fifth and have only five days before another premium is due.

Some protection is offered by the thirty-one day grace period. However, if a veteran counts on that time, and in addition believes he has thirty days between payments, his policy will lapse.

Veterans who are not sure of the day of the month their policies are effective are advised by the VA to make all subsequent payments within a thirty day period as a safety measure.

at least two years before your eligibility is up.

In Oregon, 2583 disabled veterans of World War II are now in training with the aid of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act. Zeno H. Dent, Veterans Administration training officer for this area, reported today.

As of June 1, about 57 per cent of these were enrolled in colleges, universities and other schools, while the other 43 per cent were taking job training in business and industrial plants. About 800 Oregon establishments now have disabled ex-

Os working and receiving training under public law 16.

Besides meeting eligibility requirements for G. I. Bill benefits, a veteran who wants vocational rehabilitation training must have a service-connected disability and must show a need for training to overcome his handicap, Dent explained.

Veterans desiring vocational rehabilitation may apply at the VA office at Post Office Building—Klamath Falls, Oregon.

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Camp Fire News

Thirty-two girls participated in the Gypsy Rendezvous campout Tuesday, June 24, on the Geary ranch. Nine groups were represented, with a staff of three leaders.

Mrs. Lawrence French, Mrs. John McAndrews, and Mrs. Austin McMahon, present. A pennant was given each meal to the group showing the best cooperation in their planning, preparation, serving, and clean-up. The Bonanza camp fire group, supervised by two Horizon club members, were named the best of all around campers and won the pennant.

The girls hiked a half mile into camp with their packs and began preparations for dinner. Groups of four and six girls worked over hobo stoves, reflector ovens and pit fires making biscuits, cheese bread, "duff," "nuchita," veal stew and many other outdoor recipes.

Skits, singing, story telling, folk dancing and the dyeing of gay gypsy scarves served as diversions for the out-of-camp.

Mrs. French will not meet with her Camp Fire group Thursday, July 3, but Beverly Kohn, taking her Torchbearer craftmen in citizenship, will teach the girls the art of symbolism.

Late registrations for the second week of camp are still being accepted in the office.

The hymn, "From Greenland's Icy Mountains" was written in 15 minutes by Bishop Heber.

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Helicopter Use Held Successful

PORTLAND, Ore., July 2 (AP)—Bonneville power administration's experiment in using a helicopter to patrol its power lines appeared to be proving successful today.

Leland F. Murray, superintendent of transmission maintenance, said the helicopter had been able to do the work of 36 men in checking the lines. "It enables our men to see more things faster and better than any other way, and is a perfect solution to our patrol problem," Murray said.

During the three month trial, Pilot John Steen had only one emergency landing when the engine lost power, but he managed to take off from a road shortly afterward and continue the flight.

No Special Session Slated

OLYMPIA, July 2 (AP)—Governor Wallgren reiterated today that he will not call a special session of the state legislature unless a poll of the legislators indicated such a session might result in modification of laws passed by the last legislature.

Wallgren restated his views after a reporter suggested that the 15 minority democratic state senators may request the governor to call a special session to modify social security laws when they meet with him July 8.

Wallgren said the social security laws passed by the last legislature had resulted in some hardship cases but "it would do no good to call them (the legislators) back if they feel that the laws they passed are satisfactory."

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Fuel Shortage Situation Tense

WASHINGTON, July 2 (AP)—Max W. Ball said today the chances of avoiding widespread fuel shortages next winter depend upon a half dozen "ifs"—including no strikes in the steel, rail, coal and refinery industries.

Ball, who is director of the interior department's oil and gas division, appeared before the house commerce committee which is investigating the general petroleum situation.

Upon submission of the reinstatement application with accompanying comparative health statement and two monthly premiums, the veteran assumes he has a month before another payment is due. Because the VA cannot change the original day of the month on which the policy was effective, a premium may be due within a week or two, or even a day after reinstatement payments are in the mail.

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Veterans who are not sure of the day of the month their policies are effective are advised by the VA to make all subsequent payments within a thirty day period as a safety measure.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Q. I received my discharge from the Navy more than two years ago. I have not at any time collected readjustment allowance. Am I now ineligible to receive such payments?

A. Readjustment allowances are available at any time within two years after discharge or two years after the official end of the war, whichever is later. As the war is not officially terminated, you have

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Interesting facts about your cost of living

1. Each month the U. S. Department of Labor publishes a *Commodity Index*. This index records the rise and fall in wholesale prices of some fifty-odd basic commodities—grains, meats, shoes, woollens, coal, lumber, gasoline, etc. The wholesale prices of these commodities determine your cost of living.



2. Since prices don't mean much unless you compare them with something, the *Commodity Index* uses 1926 as a base year. Whatever a commodity's price was in 1926 is 100. If its price today is 30% higher—for example—its index number will be 130. If it is 20% lower, it will be 80.

3. Here's what has happened to such essential things as food, clothing, fuel and light, and building materials since 1939—the last year before the war in Europe began to affect prices.

*U. S. Department of Labor Statistics through March, 1947—last figures available when this advertisement went to press.

Year	Building Materials	Food	Clothing	Fuel & Light
AUG. 1939	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
DEC. 1941	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
AUG. 1945	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
MAR. 1946	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
MAR. 1947	177.5	167.6	133.0	100.8

4. Now let's look at the prices of petroleum products. From August, 1939, until late in 1946 petroleum prices lagged way behind other commodities. Only when regulations were lifted was the oil industry able to make up some of the disparity. But even with the latest price rises, petroleum products are still 18% lower than they were in 1926.

5. In fact, of 53 separate commodities listed on the Labor Department Index, only 5 are lower than petroleum—tires and tubes (73.0), crude rubber (52.9), silk (73.2), rayon (87.0) and possibly electricity (figures not available since March, 1946). All the rest except mixed fertilizers (96.3) are not only higher but over 100—the 1926 price level.

March, 1947

Price index of some other commodities

LIVESTOCK & POULTRY	216.0
FRUITS & VEGETABLES	141.5
SHOES	171.5
HOSIERY & UNDERWEAR	100.8
BITUMINOUS COAL	143.6
MOTOR VEHICLES	151.2
LUMBER	269.3
FURNITURE	120.0

6. In all fairness to other industries it should be pointed out that they haven't been able to offset their increased labor costs with technological improvements to the extent that the oil industry has. Furthermore, those technological improvements would never have come along so fast—if at all—without the incentives of America's free, competitive economy.

This series, sponsored by the people of Union Oil Company, is dedicated to a discussion of how and why American business functions. We hope you'll feel free to send in any suggestions or criticisms you have to offer. Write: The President, Union Oil Company, Union Oil Building, Los Angeles 14, California.

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