

BILL TO HALT JAP PICTURE TAKING EYED

WASHINGTON, June 5 (AP) Secretary Knox asked congress Wednesday to prohibit all photographs or sketches of national defense centers or objects anywhere, and said Japanese agents were taking such pictures.

The secretary of the navy testified at a closed session of the senate naval affairs committee in favor of legislation that would impose penalties of \$500 and six months imprisonment for taking photographs of any vessel, yard, aircraft or national defense center or object anywhere, specifically including the Philippine islands.

"This is really very mild and it's necessary," Secretary Knox told reporters. "Pictures innocently taken might be used by an unfriendly power."

A reporter suggested that the proposed law might curb some Japanese camera users.

"They are taking pictures right now," the secretary said. The legislation, redrafted by the senate committee after protests by Senator John (R-Calif) would prohibit any person from "knowingly" making "any sketch, photograph, photographic negative, blueprint, plan, map, model, copy or other representation" of any naval station, article or object.

Under it, the secretary of the navy could grant exemptions for making any photographs he approved.

KNOX AWARDS 2 FLYING MEDALS

WASHINGTON, June 5 (AP) Secretary Knox has approved award of distinguished flying crosses to two naval fliers in recognition of their "skill, courage, initiative and resourcefulness" in effecting an aerial rescue of Lieutenant Walter S. Osipoff of the marine corps at San Diego, Calif., last month.

The awards, which will be presented by Knox at his office here Thursday go to Lieutenant William W. Lowrey and Aviation Chief Machinist's Mate John R. McCants.

The citation which the secretary issued in approving the awards said that the two fliers had shown "extraordinary heroism" in making the rescue.

Saboteur Sought After Attempt to Burn Shipyards

SEATTLE, June 5 (AP) — A saboteur who attempted last week to burn one of the harbor island shipyards, in an area where work on millions of dollars of defense contracts is being rushed, was intensively sought here today.

Although officially "hushed," efforts are being pushed by both the FBI and the fire department to trace down the man who started the fire, latest of several recent suspicious blazes, authentic sources disclosed.

At 1 a. m. one morning, the harbor patrol discovered an oil-soaked mattress burning under the plant's substructure, the sources said. It was extinguished with small loss and the incident kept secret.

Another small waterfront fire of apparently incendiary origin was discovered in time and put out May 22 at pier D, foot of Jackson street. The Hotel Stewart blaze May 8, in which four persons died, and two other recent fires have also been listed as of incendiary origin.

HOLIDAY HUNCH
RICHMOND, Va., (AP) — Roland Warren Smith of Richmond has a hunch he will be called to military service the Fourth of July.

On New Year's eve he was notified of his local order number in the draft. On April Fool's day he received his questionnaire. On Memorial day the postman brought his notification to appear for his physical exam.

Sprague River Jubilant Over New Road Prospects

By ROLAND L. PARKS
SPRAGUE RIVER—The long fight by the citizens of Sprague River and surrounding districts for an improved Sprague River to Lakeview highway junction road seems to be in the most favorable stage in years. The year of 1941 has seen some startling and dramatic developments in the fight.

During the winter the road became so bad that traffic was almost stopped. A "Road Vigilante Committee" erected a sign that attracted statewide attention and mirth. The sign read, "Warning: This road is almost impassable. In fact it's most jackassable. If on this road you must travel, beware, there is no gravel. Signed by those who suffer." This sign aroused countywide attention to the problem and the first week of its erection found a fleet of county road trucks dumping gravel in the worst holes.

The next step came when a delegation of Sprague River business men paid a visit to a board of directors meeting of the Klamath county chamber of commerce. There an impassioned plea was given, at which time it was explained that Sprague River citizens were practically isolated from medical, drug, dental and numerous other services during the winter months. The chamber announced that the Sprague River road would be its No. 1 road project for county road improvement during 1941.

The county court then announced that it would spend in the neighborhood of \$5000 on the road during the year, \$1200 of which was to repair a bridge near the town. But Sprague River people felt this remaining small sum would do little more than patch up the road which would again go to pieces this winter.

The last and most favorable step for a good road is the announcement that the U. S. senate appropriations committee has approved an appropriation of \$150,000 to be expended on the road if the state will match the sum. The Sprague River Commercial club sent a detailed letter to Washington, D. C., by C. S. Scharfenstein of the Klamath county chamber of commerce. Scharfenstein conducted a very vigorous campaign with the resulting announcement of the appropriation.

Sprague River, in the heart of a great lumber and farming area, feels that the road is deserving of state support as it is a heavily traveled road and is a most important detour in case of troubles on The Dalles-California highway. It is the natural link

between the Lakeview highway and The Dalles-California road. The fact that the federal government has deemed this road of such importance strengthens the case that the road should be taken under broader authority than the county court. The state is the natural agency for such a vital thoroughfare. The county court with over a thousand miles of road under its care can hardly hope to give the road the proper attention.

This week the county graders and equipment are working on the road in the area near town. The low spot at the edge of the town that becomes a quagmire during wet weather is being built up and given drainage. A rock crusher is being installed three miles from town and promises of a crushed rock surface seem to be much in evidence.

With all of this activity the Sprague River people feel that efforts of the Klamath Falls newspapers, the county chamber of commerce and the untiring work of various local people is bringing to an end a problem that has been almost given up as hopeless.

CALIFORNIA'S OIL HITS APRIL HIGH

SAN FRANCISCO, June 5 (AP) California's rich oil fields, capable of supplying the nation's automobiles, railroads and ships with fuel should occasion arise, poured out more oil into consumer tanks in April this year than since last October's heavy flow.

The 21,908,000 barrels of crude oil and condensed gas taken from the state's 15,000 or so wells and actually used was the largest April stream in years.

It compared with 18,759,000 barrels that ran through the mains in the 1940 month, and 19,206,000 in April 1939, records

of the federal bureau of mines showed.

The monthly report of petroleum economist, Edward T. Knudsen, indicated oil consumption for the first four months this year totaled 82,262,000 barrels. That compared with 76,846,000 barrels in the 1940 period.

The four months consumer demand this year was larger than that of other recent years except 1937. It ran a couple of million barrels under that year's fuel demand.

The industry, placed under the rule of Secretary of the Interior Ickes last week by President Roosevelt, faced no shortage of supply. The potential shortage was in transportation.

Sinking of tankers bound for Britain evidently had called for enough American tankers as replacements to raise the possibility that some American communities depending upon tanker supplies — such as the Pacific northwest — might lack adequate transport at some future period.

Oil and shipping men saw no prospect of any immediate cut in coast services, however.

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