

REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR!

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Hitler Admits Reds Superior In Men, Arms

Begs German People To Contribute Warm Clothing To Men On Front

GOEBBELS SPEAKS

High Command Admits African Army Withdrawing 'According To Plan'

LONDON, Dec. 20.—(P)—An appeal from Adolf Hitler read on every radio station of the Reich tonight acknowledged that his army faced an enemy superior in numbers and material and begged the straitened German people to contribute their warm clothing to enable the soldiers to endure the rigors of the bitter eastern front.

The appeal, sounded on Hitler's behalf by Propaganda Minister Paul Joseph Goebbels, said the German people must show their gratitude by making a Christmas gift of every article of warm clothing that possibly can be spared to the men in the army.

While Goebbels was thus reading his own appeal and the proclamation of the Fuehrer, the High Command admitted its African army was withdrawing westward "according to plan" and that on the frigid Russian front heavy battles were being fought without a claim to German advances. In Russia, the High Command merely said, the Russians were suffering extreme new losses.

His proclamation, calling for a gift from the people to the army on this third war Christmas, Hitler declared: "German people: While apart from air raids, German homes are safe from the enemy, millions of our soldiers now stand at the front, after a year of most severe fighting against an enemy vastly superior both in numbers and in quantities of material.

"Victories, such as the world has so far never experienced, were achieved, thanks to the leadership and the gallantry of officers and men.

"But the greatest military front of all times holds and fights from the Arctic regions to the Black sea, from the snowfields of Finland to the mountains of the Balkans, until the hour of the final annihilation of the most dangerous enemy of all times."

It was not clear just what Hitler meant by his reference to a "final annihilation."

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DUTCH WARPLANES BOMB JAP SHIPS

Claim Direct Hits On Two Cruisers, Another Warship And Transport

BATAVIA, Netherlands East Indies, Dec. 20.—(P)—Direct bomb hits on two Japanese cruisers, a transport and another warship presumably used as an aircraft carrier were reported officially tonight by Dutch airmen operating big American bombers off Japanese-occupied Miri, Borneo.

Other explosives rained alongside the Japanese ships, as the Dutch pilots twice attacked the invaders who are seeking to reinforce their hold on the Sarawak coast, which is adjacent to British and Dutch Borneo, the agency Aneta said.

Another Japanese cruiser was reported hit last Wednesday, hence the Dutch asserted three enemy ships were destroyed.

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REUNION IN HAWAII



Overjoyed at finding his wife safe in an evacuation center, disheveled, battle-weary Staff Sgt. Dean Norris, U.S.A., greets her in this fashion. Reunion was in wake of the treacherous Jap "sneak" raid on the unsuspecting island of Oahu. Mrs. Norris had been evacuated from the Hickam Field to Red Cross center in the University of Hawaii, Honolulu, three days before.

Red Cross Opens Funds Drive Here Tomorrow

MARSHALL IN CHARGE

Workers Will Meet At Tide Water Power Company Hall At 9:30 a. m.

Campaign workers of the Wilmington chapter of the American Red Cross will meet at 9:30 Monday morning in the assembly hall of the Tide Water Power company to launch an emergency three-day drive for a minimum of \$15,000 to meet the local chapter's share of the national Red Cross's quota of \$50,000,000 for its war relief program.

Alan A. Marshall has been named campaign director for the three-day drive, General Chairman Louis Poisson announced Saturday.

Volunteers Needed

All workers who have already signed up to take part in the campaign are asked to be present for Monday's meeting. In addition, any volunteer, who thinks he can secure 10 contributions, is also asked to attend.

Meanwhile, Mr. Poisson issued an appeal to Wilmingtonians who intended to contribute their share to the campaign for emergency relief not to wait until someone called on them before making their donation.

"Mail your check to Treasurer L. D. Latta, now, and thereby speed up the campaign," Mr. Poisson said.

"Since we are endeavoring to raise Wilmington's share of the war relief program as quickly as possible, time is of the utmost importance."

It was pointed out that its was particularly important for Wilmington to exceed the \$15,000 quota since the city might be one of the first to need the work of the Red Cross because of its strategic location.

There is no good purpose to be served by denying this possibility. We must not hide our heads at the possibility of attacks, or deny that the Nazis, always on the offensive, will exert their full effort to strike a blow at the United States and especially at cities where rich stores and industries exist, it was stated.

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British Continue Chase Of Axis Army In Libya

CAIRO, Egypt, Dec. 20.—(P)—Axis resistance in Libya has all but collapsed and the British are in full chase of General Erwin Rommel's army, fleeing westward in a rout almost to Bengasi, the British declared tonight.

So fast is the pursuit, it was said, that the British have been pressed to stay on the enemy's heels and much of the job of smashing the Axis' last remnants of strength has fallen to the RAF.

The main body of the retreating Axis army is now in the western Gebel Akhar mountains, a coastal range whose western end extends to south of Bengasi, the British said.

The route was said to have lit-

France Says It Will Stay Neutral In War

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(P)—Admiral William D. Leahy, American ambassador to Vichy, has reported that the French government under Marshall Pétain has announced its "intention of maintaining an attitude of neutrality in the present conflict."

Gaston Henri - Haye, the French ambassador here, told newspapermen at the State department several days ago that he was informing the American government that France would remain neutral in the war embroiling the United States, but today's announcement was the first official declaration to that effect.

Heretofore initial Japanese landings have been unopposed by ground troops, except at Lingayen, north-west of Manila on Luzon island, where the Nipponese were pushed back into the sea last week.

The island defenders were just as well prepared to meet the Japanese at Davao, 600 miles by land and sea from Manila, as they were at Lingayen. In addition, fierce, knife-wielding Moros who inhabit Mindanao by the thousands are expected to aid the regular military forces.

Other Landings

In their three other landings, the Japanese gained beach heads at Aparri, on the northern shores of Luzon, at Vigan on the northwest coast and at Legaspi, southeast of Manila, and these forces are under ceaseless aerial harassment.

The Americans have taken a heavy toll of Japanese ships, planes and men but have made no concerted effort so far to drive these invaders off by land assault. The reason, it is pointed out, is because these three footholds are remote and lack major strategic importance.

But at Davao it appeared a determined fight was shaping up for that point commanding a short-cut sea route to Borneo on the southeast.

The Japanese at Davao apparently are being held up.

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WEATHER

FORECASTS: NORTH CAROLINA: Fair, much colder east and central portions and slightly colder extreme west portion Sunday.

ENEMY SUBS DESTROY U. S. SHIPS OFF CALIFORNIA COAST, REPORTED OPERATING OFF ATLANTIC SHORES; DEFENSE OF HONGKONG PROLONGED

DAVAO SITUATION IS OBSCURE

No Word Received From Japanese-Invaded City On Mindanao Island By Army Headquarters Since Saturday

LUZON ISLAND SETUP UNCHANGED

Fierce, Knife-Wielding Moros Are Expected To Aid Regular Military Forces In Jungle Fighting

MANILA, Sunday, Dec. 21.—(7:40 A. M.—5:40 P. M. EST, Saturday)—(P)—Army headquarters announced today that due to communication difficulties the situation at Japanese-invaded Davao, on Mindanao island, is obscure.

No word has been received from there since yesterday afternoon.

A brief communique disclosed that an aerial bombardment was carried out against Davao by the Japanese before they sent a considerable force of troops ashore from four transports in the early Saturday dawn.

The announcement said the situation remained unchanged on Luzon island, where the Japanese have established small beachheads on the north, northwest and south-eastern coast.

Japanese Center

Davao is one of the most heavily Japanese-populated centers in the Philippines and the invaders apparently chose that port for their landing with the idea of obtained support from fifth columnists among their number.

Presumably the Japanese came ashore in fairly substantial forces at this predominantly Japanese-populated center and informed sources here believed the Davao campaign may develop into the most important land battle yet in the Philippine archipelago.

Heavy Fighting

General Douglas MacArthur's headquarters announced yesterday afternoon that heavy fighting was under way with ground defense forces, long-prepared for just such an attempt opposing the invaders. Doubtless these forces were strongly supported by American planes.

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JAPS LAUD TOMMIES

London Says It Will Be Miracle If Colony Does Not Fall To Japs

VICTORIA CAPTURED

Chinese Not Expected To Exert Enough Pressure To Relieve Fort

LONDON, Dec. 20.—(P)—Written off by the generals as hopeless, the magnificent defense of Hongkong was prolonged tonight by the blood of a garrison of fighting men thrown together from two sides of the world.

Even the Japanese, in sudden praise of the last stand of the band of British Tommies, Canadians from Manitoba and Quebec and bewhiskered, stoic Indian Sikhs, admitted in a broadcast tonight: "The expected imminent fall of the colony has been staved off by their stubborn defense."

"Win Respect"

Then, in an unusual tribute, the Japanese News Agency Domei, added: "They have fought desperately in a manner to win the respect of even the top Japanese."

Waiting for the end, authorities in London said it would be a miracle if the colony, a rocky square of England in the Orient for a hundred years, did not soon pass entirely into Japanese hands.

The Japanese say they have the city of Victoria and that lorries flying the scarlet ball of the rising sun are roaring through the streets, packed with disarmed British soldiers; that the cannon on Mount Davis, dominating a chain of forts eastward, have been silenced; that remnants of the British garrison are encircled on the peak of the island, Mount Victoria.

Guns Still Reply

But, their broadcasts acknowledged today Mount Victoria's guns still replied at intervals.

None of this detail was confirmed in any degree in London. The colonial office limited its announcement during the day to this terse and dramatic communique: "The governor of Hongkong reported by telegraph this morning that operations are proceeding on the island."

"The governor wishes it to be known that the Japanese story that he left is entirely false."

Sir Mark Aitchison Young is the governor—a 55-year-old colonial administrator who has served his empire from Trinidad to Tanganyika. He also is commander in

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PARKING METERS' OPERATION SLATED

Wallace Says They Will Be Put Into Use On Two Streets This Week

Parking meters on two Wilmington streets will be put into operation early this week, City Manager James G. Wallace, said Saturday morning.

The streets on which the first parking meters will be used are Market and Front. The cost of parking will be one cent for 12 minutes and five cents for one hour.

However, at certain locations such as the city hall, postoffice and liquor store, the meters will be for 12 minutes only.

Manager Wallace cautioned motorists about the method to be used in parking automobiles when the meters are installed. He stated that the proper procedure was to drive in the space head-on rather than to back in, because in backing the meter might be damaged and in that case the motorists would be assessed the cost of repairs.

The headlights of the auto should be at right angles with the meters, he said, in order for the cars to be parked right. If this is done there will always be enough room for the cars to park.

U. S. SUB SINKS JAP TRANSPORT

Loss Of American Shipping Revealed By Admiral Greenslade In Appeal To Welders Not To Stop Work

MINDANAO FIGHTING INCREASES

Nipponese Bomb Naval Base At Cavite, Near Manila, With Some Damage But Casualties Reported Light

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(P)— Naval sources announced tonight that enemy submarines have been destroying American shipping off the California coast, and have been active, as well, off the Atlantic seaboard.

From the Far East, meanwhile, came word that an American submarine had destroyed a Japanese transport, the second such vessel to be sunk this week by the Navy's undersea arm. In addition, a Japanese destroyer probably has been sent to the bottom.

Rear Admiral John W. Greenslade at San Francisco revealed the loss of American shipping for Japanese submarines in an appeal to shipyard welders not to quit work because of a union dispute. Without going into details, he said that the ships lost would have to be replaced.

Scene of Campaign

Mindanao, the southernmost of the larger Philippine islands, apparently was becoming the scene of the major campaign of that area.

Substantial enemy forces had landed at Davao, a city predominantly Japanese in population, and heavy fighting was in progress. But army headquarters in Manila reported they had been out of communication with Davao since Saturday afternoon and that the situation was obscure.

Cavite Bombed

It was announced, too, that the Japanese bombed the naval base at Cavite, near Manila, yesterday. There was some damage to property but casualties were light. They returned to the Manila area today in an attempt to bomb Nichols field, but the bombs, dropped from an extreme height, went wide of their objectives.

The news that enemy submarines are operating off the Atlantic coast was given out indirectly, by the Navy in a statement cautioning radio stations against weather forecast broadcasts, even when they involve only isolated areas far from the sea. The department related this story: "A 'weatherwise' commanding officer (Continued on Page Three; Col. 7)

L.A.F. DOWNS FOUR JAPANESE PLANES

CHUNGKING, Dec. 20.—(P)—The International Air Force, composed exclusively of fliers who resigned from United States air forces to defend the Burma road, had its first clash with Japanese warplanes today and shot down four of them, it was reported here tonight.

The American fliers were said by high Chinese quarters to have

Chinese Continue Drive Against Nipponese Attacking Hongkong

MOSCOW, Sunday, Dec. 21.—(P)—Plunging forward with accelerated momentum, the Red army's grand offensive has captured the key industrial and rail center of Volokolamsk, 65 miles northwest of Moscow, and registered other gains from Finland to the Sea of Azov, the Russians announced today.

The town of Volokolamsk, south of Lake Ladoga on the northern front, and dozens more villages on the Moscow front have been re-occupied in fiercely contested battles, the Soviet information bureau communique announced last midnight.

With Soviet forces counting vast new spoils and mounting numbers of German dead, pursuit of disordered Nazi divisions routed in the Kallinin sector, 90 miles northwest of Moscow, was declared gaining momentum. There the wreckage of German transports and war material littered the snows, the communique said.

Mockingly referring to German claims that the weather largely was responsible for their reverses, the official announcement said: "The Germans still are complaining about the snow on the Russian front which, however, makes no difference to the Russians."

The Russians asserted the rout of the Nazis in the Kallinin sector was being matched by similar Red army pursuits west of Moscow and on the southwestern front.

Volokolamsk, a cotton textile (Continued on Page Eight; Col. 3)

Reds Take Volokolamsk And Score Other Gains

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F. D. R. Studying Creation Of Supreme War Council

By WILLIAM B. ARDERY WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(P)—President Roosevelt was reported on excellent authority today to be considering the creation of a supreme war council which would be subordinate only to him and would have powers even greater than those of the cabinet.

Those in a position to know said that while the plan still was embryonic, the President believed the war effort could be prosecuted more efficiently if he had a small group around him which could handle many matters of policy which now require his personal attention.

Informants said the proposed war council would be composed of from three to five men. They listed the following among those being considered for membership on the group: Wendell L. Willkie, Republican nominee for the presidency in 1940 and now member of a New York law firm.

Rear Admiral William D. Leahy, minister to the Vichy France government, former chief of naval operations and former governor of Puerto Rico.

Vice President Henry A. Wallace, chairman of the supplies, priorities and allocations board.

Philip Murray, president of the Congress of Industrial Organizations.

In informed quarters, it was recalled there have been repeated (Continued on Page Three; Col. 2)

KING GIVEN FULL COMMAND OF NAVY

Appointment Completes Shake-Up Started With Removal Of Kimmel

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—(P)—Supreme command of the United States Navy, wherever its operations may take it, was given today to Admiral Ernest J. King.

With the appointment went the Navy's recognition of the terrific power of the airplane in modern warfare, for King's career includes service with the air corps and he is, in his own right, a naval aviator.

In addition, he has served with submarines as well as surface craft, has proved himself an excellent tactician, and thus is considered an officer of unusually full and well-rounded experience.

The appointment completed a widespread shake-up which began last Wednesday with the removal of Admiral Husband E. Kimmel, from command of the Pacific fleet, pending an investigation of the Navy's

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BRITISH ORGANIZE NEW MALAYA LINE

Imperial Defenders Of Singapore Prepared For Attack On Key Base

SINGAPORE, Dec. 20.—(P)—British Imperial defenders of the distant approaches to Singapore methodically organized a new line today in northwest Malaya without hindrance from the Japanese invaders, after smashing an enemy stab on the main road which winds through the mountainous interior.

The new line was being reorganized well south of the Kran river in Perak state, some 300 miles above Singapore. The tactical problem involved a slight further withdrawal. (It seemed likely reorganization of these defenses

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