

REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR!

14—NO. 20.

WPB Orders 100 Per Cent Gasoline Cut

Affect Deliveries To Eastern And Pacific Northwest States

ATIONING LOOMS 100,000 Stations Must Confine Operations To 12 Hours Daily

WASHINGTON, Mar. 14.—(AP)—A 10 per cent reduction in gasoline deliveries to filling stations in eastern seaboard and Pacific Northwest States was ordered by the War Production Board today in a step which...

WHIRIE RESIGNS WPB BRANCH POST

He Attempted To Do Job 'Without Regard Of Any Special Interest'

WASHINGTON, Mar. 14.—(AP)—Robert H. Guthrie, chief of the War Production Board's textiles, clothing and leather branch, suddenly resigned his post today, along with key members of his staff...

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THE PORT CITY OF PROGRESS AND PLEASURE

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PRETTY SNAPPY



Copying the outfits of U. S. Army officers, girl ordnance workers are now cutting a snappy figure in uniforms, as photo above shows.

Reds' Southern Armies Kill 10,000 Nazi Troops

STORES CAPTURED Germans Slain At Rate Of 2,000 Daily From Ukraine To Crimea

MOSCOW, March 14.—(AP)—Soviet armies of the south and southwest have killed 10,000 Germans and captured or destroyed vast stores of food, clothing and war supplies in five days of savage fighting over battlefields churned into quagmires by thawing snow and ice...

GROUP APPROVES U. S. SALES TAX

Majority Of Senate Committee Endorse Plan To Raise War Funds

WASHINGTON, March 14.—(AP)—A majority of the senate finance committee expressed qualified approval today of a sales tax as a means of raising part of the \$7,000,000,000 additional revenue being sought to aid in financing the war effort.

WEATHER

FORECAST: NORTH CAROLINA—Continued warm, possibly scattered showers in the mountains Sunday.

Seven More Allied Ships Sunk By Subs

Rome Radio Says Queen Mary, Laden With Troops, Badly Damaged

MANY MEN RESCUED Seven Of Crew Of One American Freighter Are Landed At Norfolk

(By The Associated Press) Seven new sinkings of Allied merchantmen were reported along the North American Atlantic coast and the Caribbean yesterday by the Navy.

Seamen Land Nearer home, the Navy revealed that a small American merchantman was sent to the bottom early Wednesday and that seven of her crew had been landed at Norfolk.

Survivors of an American and a Norwegian ship reached Puerto Rican, Haitian and Cuban ports, disclosing that Axis submarines had sunk them in the Caribbean.

The American vessel was not identified other than as a small ship, which was torpedoed on March 6. Fifty-six out of a probable 67 passengers and crew were saved.

The Norwegian vessel was a tanker, Thorfy-four of her 41 complement were rescued.

A sinking in Bahama waters was revealed with the announcement in Nassau of the arrival there of the entire crew of 30 of a vessel of unidentified nationality which was sunk on Wednesday.

Another Norwegian loss was reported at Progreso, Mexico, where 12 survivors of the freighter Gunny were landed by a Swedish vessel.

FRENCH RAIDERS CAPTURE UOLOU

Troops Sweep 200 Miles Westward In Fezzan Desert Of South Libya

LONDON, March 14.—(AP)—Free French raiders have swept 200 miles westward in the great Fezzan desert of South Libya, capturing the Italian outpost of Uolou, 375 miles southwest of El Agheila, where Nazi Marshal Erwin Rommel started his latest offensive.

NAVY DISCLOSES 12 ALLIED WARSHIPS SUNK OFF JAVA; JAPAN LOSES EIGHT CRAFT

JAPS BOMB ISLANDS Warplanes Carry Attack To Within 31 Miles Of Australian Mainland

GAIN NEW FOOTHOLDS Australians Strike At Jap Springboards In Country's Outer Defenses

(By VERN HAUGLAND MELBOURNE, March 14.)—Japanese bombers raided islands only 30 miles off the northeastern tip of Australia today in a possible softening-up prelude to an invasion attempt against the commonwealth mainland from newly-won bases in New Guinea.

The attack, on a small scale, was aimed at islands in the vicinity of Thursday island which lie like stepping stones across the 100-mile wide Torres strait between Australia and New Guinea.

The raided islands lie opposite Port Moresby, on the southwest New Guinea coast, which has been the target of repeated Japanese air attacks. It is some 270 miles across the Coral sea from Cape York, northeasternmost tip of Australia.

The Japanese have gained footholds at Salamaua and Ale, on the southeastern New Guinea coast, about 400 miles from the Australian mainland and today's raiders may have come from those bases.

The Australians, keeping sleepless vigil along her threatened shores, themselves struck back at Japanese springboard positions in the commonwealth's outer defenses.

Bombers inflicted heavy damage on grounded aircraft in an attack on the Japanese-held airbase at Rabaul in New Britain, destroying probably three planes and damaging ten others with a heavy concentration.

Port Moresby Attacked Port Moresby on the southeast coast of New Guinea was attacked by Japanese fliers using cannon and machine-gun fire yesterday but the only casualties cited in the RAAF communique was a leg wound suffered by an Aussie flier.

The sparsely settled continent looked more and more to the United States for a decisive tip of the scales against Japan.

(Official Washington and Australian reports of the preliminary battle for Australia have disclosed that United States bombers are in the forefront of the aerial counter-attacks on the enemy. There also has been unmistakable evidence of a general and even pictorial nature that other U. S. effectives, both military and naval, have arrived since mid-February in various parts of Australia and that the U. S. Pacific fleet is hard at work establishing and holding the long sea communications between the continents.)

Prime Minister John Curtin spoke last night of the United States, instead of Great Britain, as the "paramount factor" for the democracies as far as this country is concerned.

Sharp Reminder His address was interpreted as a sharp reminder of the growing importance of the United States war effort in this critical theater.

Idea Of March May Bring Major War Developments

(By The Associated Press) The Idea of March are come. As in Julius Caesar's day, March 15 is laden with portents of doom. The Idea of March this year mean imminent death on battlefields for hundreds of thousands of Axis and United Nations troops in the swiftly approaching spring offensives.

March has been a favorite month for the arch foe of the United Nations—Adolf Hitler—to initiate his most spectacular coups.

In March, 1936 he remilitarized the Rhineland. In March, 1938 he seized Austria.

In March, 1939, on this very date, he occupied Bohemia and Moravia, dismembering Czechoslovakia. He also seized Melmel.

In March, 1940 he was busy preparing for an invasion of Scandinavia, the Lowlands and France and the following March he was strengthening his grip on the Balkans with a war of nerves that preceded the overrunning of that territory.

And March, 1942? It may be Turkey, Sweden, Iceland, Suez, Gibraltar, Dakar or the Azores; certainly a drive against Russia. His Japanese partner perils Australia and India, and may be preparing for a thrust against Siberia and the vast Russian forces based on Vladivostok.

Hitler Urging Japanese To Enter Conquest Plan

PROMISES REWARD Some Jap Leaders Believe Time Has Arrived To Consolidate Gains

(By ROBERT BUNELLE LONDON, March 14.—(AP)—Adolf Hitler is insistently pressing upon his Japanese allies a grandiose scheme of world conquest and promising as reward for their collaboration that their empire may be so far extended as to include part of Africa, a foreign diplomatic source said today.

As in Germany, where one section of military and industrial opinion thinks German conquests have gone far enough, there is a division of opinion in Japan, however, and some influential leaders there believe the time has almost arrived to concentrate on holding what has been gained.

The foreign source, who said his information was gleaned from diplomatic listening posts and confidential agents throughout Europe and the Far East, said Hitler's plan involves two huge nautcracker attacks on Russia and the India area and a series of subsidiary maneuvers.

He said all reporters of the plan felt that this proposal was behind Japan's "strangely Kurusu-like appointment of Naotake Sato to assure Russia of her peaceful intentions."

Sato, the new ambassador to Russia, has a role similar to that of Kurusu, who was sent to Washington to negotiate while Japan was planning her treacherous attack on Pearl Harbor, he declared.

The same plan also is back of the dispatch of a Japanese military mission to Madagascar, the big French island in the Indian ocean 250 miles off the East African coast.

13TH BELIEVED LOST

Two U. S. Ships—Cruiser Houston, Destroyer Pope—Among Those Lost

THREE-PART FIGHT

Japs Gain Command Of Sea, Air And Trap United Nations' Fleet

WASHINGTON, March 14.—(AP)—The Navy today announced the sinking of 12 Allied warships, with a thirteenth believed lost, some in the battle to keep the Japanese out of Java and the others in boldly trying to escape from a tightly closed enemy trap in which they later found themselves.

Two American ships, the cruiser Houston and the destroyer John D. Pope were among those lost. The rest were Australian, British and Dutch. These punishing reverses were offset in part by the destruction of or severe damage to eight Japanese warships.

The battle divided itself into three parts.

Jupiter Disabled "Half an hour after this Allied force had turned to westward along the Java coast, H.M.S. Jupiter was disabled by an underwater explosion. She sank four hours later. H.M.S. Jupiter was not far from the mainland of Java, and a number of survivors have already reached Australia. A U. S. submarine assisted in the rescue of the survivors."

Supplementing this description, a naval spokesman here said the Jupiter was a unquestionably sunk by a submarine.

As the night wore on, the coastal sweep continued. At 11:30, when the fleet was 12 miles off Rembang, two Japanese cruisers were sighted between it and the shore; firing began immediately, a number of hits were scored. Meanwhile:

"The Deruyter was hit by one shell. Afterwards, the Deruyter made a large change of course presumably in order to avoid torpedoes fired by the enemy. The other Allied cruisers were following the Deruyter when underwater explosions occurred simultaneously in the cruisers Deruyter and Java. Both these Dutch cruisers blew up and sank at once."

The Navy said it was impossible to estimate with accuracy the damage inflicted upon the enemy during these actions, but added: "Observers in the perth considered that one Japanese eight-inch gun cruiser was sunk, a second eight-inch gun cruiser damaged and a destroyer sunk. It also has been reported that a cruiser of the Mogami class was set on fire and three destroyers seriously damaged and left on fire or sinking."

H.M.S. Perth and the U.S.S. Houston, which had received some damage in this action, reached Tanjong Priok at seven o'clock in the morning of Feb. 28. Five U. S. destroyers reached Sourabaya (Soerabaya) after the action.

"With the enemy in command of sea and air north of Java in overwhelming force, the Allied command was faced with the problem of extricating the remaining Allied ships from a very dangerous situation."

The announcement went on to say that the route to Australia was

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WHEAT PENALTY IS HELD INVALID

Court Says It Amounts To Taking Property Without Due Process Of Law

DAYTON, O., March 14.—A special three-judge federal court today held invalid a 49-cent penalty imposed by the government last summer on wheat marketed in excess of AAA quotas on the ground it amounted to taking farmers' property without due process of law.

The majority decision, from which Judge Florence Allen of the Sixth U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals dissented, did not touch on constitutionality of the wheat control act itself, which farmers approved in a national referendum a year ago. Judge Allen contended the impost was valid.

District judges Robert Neven and John H. Druffel in their decision enjoining collection of the penalty pointed out it was increased by Congress from 15 to 49 cents after last summer's crop was planted, said:

"Under the circumstances, we are obliged to hold that the amendment of May 26, 1941, insofar as it increased the penalty for the farm marketing excess over the 15 cents per bushel and subjected the entire crop to a lien for the payment thereof, operated retroactively and that it amounts to a taking of plaintiff's property without due process."

The suit was filed last summer by Roscoe G. Filburn on behalf of a group of Montgomery county farmers, and named as defendant Carl R. Helke, county AAA chairman, and Secretary of Agriculture Wickard. It was the first suit of its kind in the nation, and followed

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U. S. Soldiers Receiving Hard Training In Ireland

By RICE YAHNER WITH THE AEF IN NORTHERN IRELAND, March 14.—(AP)—United States troops are undergoing intense training for the grim war tasks that lie ahead.

A two-day tour which ended tonight carried this correspondent to various headquarters tucked away in communities, woods and glens of Ulster. There modern soldiers with the latest weapons and machinery were deployed among buildings that were old when the Pilgrims set out for America.

The men slowly are getting inured to mud. They spend the daylight hours preparing trenches and obstacles at vantage points to guard against possible parachute troop attacks, bombings and machine-gunning from the air.

In regular schedules on the rifle ranges, artillerymen are checking. Their weapons and ammunition and plotting movements to cover every eventuality in the event of invasion by mechanized forces.

Practice against moving targets will start soon.

At one base, engineers had embarked on an extensive project of building war installations which kept the men busy from the misty night.

Most recreation is out for the

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USO CLUBS STAGE OPEN HOUSE TODAY

All Wilmingtonians Invited To Visit Five Clubs During The Day

All Wilmingtonians are invited to visit the five USO buildings in the Wilmington area today when "open house" will be observed from 1 to 6 p. m.

Completing several months of service to defense workers and their families and service men, the clubs want everyone to see the facilities and programs offered there.

Clubs have arranged individual programs of special interest but there will be an overall plan for all the clubs. Mayor Hargrove Bellamy, the Rev. Walter B. Freed, chairman of USO Council; Harry Wellott, FSA representative; and Saunders McMahon of the N. C. Shipbuilding company will visit each of the five clubs beginning at Harbor Island at 3:30 p. m. Visit to the other clubs will be made at the following hours: Fifth and Orange, 4 p. m.; Fourth and Ann,

(Continued on Page Two; Col. 2)

Ten Nazi Planes Downed In Fights Over Channel

LONDON, March 14.—(AP)—Terrific air battles raged over the English Channel today and when the skies had cleared ten German planes had fallen and every British fighter had returned unscathed to its base.

The dogfights followed by a few hours a heavy night bombing of Cologne, munitions center and communications hub of the German Rhineland.

The Air Ministry told of one encounter in which eight out of ten Messerschmitts, flying low over the channel, were destroyed.

"Terrific dogfights in and out of the clouds were fought at heights between 4,000 and 7,000 feet," the Ministry said.

"While this fight was in progress one section of the protecting squadron had a scrap of its own with eight Messerschmitt-109s and one Focke-Wulf-109. One Messerschmitt was shot down into the sea. When our aircraft landed it was found that not one pilot had been as much as scratched by a single German bullet."

The tenth plane was destroyed in an RAF channel sweep.

Last night in the light of "hundreds of flares," the British bombers

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