

BATAAN LINE IS PIERCED BY JAPANESE

Offensive Is Checked By Fierce U. S.-Filipino Counter-Attack

ENEMY UNITS TRAPPED Anti-Aircraft Gunners At Corregidor Destroy Three Jap Planes

By EDWARD E. BOMAR WASHINGTON, April 2.—A savage onslaught by Japanese assault troops succeeded today in penetrating the defense line on Bataan peninsula before the invaders were halted by a fierce American-Filipino counter attack.

The War department reported reassuringly, however, that the line was restored, and a "considerable number" of enemy units trapped. These were being mopped up late in the day.

Meantime, the anti-aircraft gunners of Corregidor fortress off the southern end of Bataan destroyed three Japanese heavy bombers and a fourth bomber blew up in mid-air.

The attack which penetrated the defense's main line was the second launched in 24 hours, a late day communiqué said. The first, made near the center, was readily mastered by heavy artillery fire and counterattacks which regained outposts that had been abandoned to the foe.

The second, launched about ten miles to the west, was directed against the left center of General Wainwright's line. Supported by a heavy concentration of artillery fire, the Japanese assault troops advanced dangerously clear, before the spearhead of the assault was smashed by a counter-attack which trapped the advance forces.

Line Restored "Our main line of resistance has been restored and the enemy advance halted," the communiqué reported, adding that while Japanese losses were heavy, the defenders' casualties were "surprisingly small."

The onslaughts were the second (Continued on Page Three; Col. 4)

ORDER IS PLACED FOR 33 VESSELS

Maritime Commission Completes Awards For Greatest Building Program

WASHINGTON, April 2.—Awarding of contracts for history's greatest shipbuilding program—23,000,000 deadweight tons in two years—was completed today by the Maritime Commission.

Japs May Open Attack By Sea

Since Losing Air Superiority In South

DARWIN BOMBED ANEW No Damage Or Casualties Reported In Communique After Attack

MELBOURNE, April 2.—The Japanese bombed the northern port of Darwin today for the eleventh time, but their loss of air superiority in this theater of war led to predictions that their next move might be a sea-borne attack on Port Moresby, key city of New Guinea.

A brief communique from the office of Prime Minister John Curtin said that seven bombers with fighter escorts conducted the Darwin raid but that no damage or casualties were reported and that the action was the only one reported in the entire area of the war southwest Pacific.

The probability that the Japanese will switch to a sea thrust at Port Moresby, less than 300 miles from the Australian mainland, was raised by the Sydney Sun. It said that with heavy rains halting the Japanese drive overland from the north New Guinea coast and with the American and Australian forces having won at least temporary air superiority, a resort to naval action was suggested by recent movements of enemy ships, which are constantly being attacked at Lae and Salamaua by the Allied air forces.

Get Reinforcements The paper warned, however, that the Japanese were obtaining aerial reinforcements "which must be described as considerable," and that "the air supremacy we have gained may not be permanent and at most will dislocate the Japanese plans only temporarily."

The increasing American aid to Australia was regarded as likely to cause the Japanese to hasten their attack plans.

(A London broadcast quoting Sydney messages said the American and Australian fliers had destroyed or crippled 96 Japanese planes since March 10 at a cost of only 12 of their own planes, of which five crews were saved.)

(The Australian radio reported from Darwin that the red ball was being moved from the insignia to U. S. planes to avoid any possible confusion with the red emblem of Japan. This would leave the U. S. planes with a white star on a blue field.)

TODAY and TOMORROW

BY WALTER LIPPMANN The Blockade of America

It is clear to every one who knows the situation, and very clear indeed to our enemies, that our critical weakness is no longer in the production of war materials but in transportation. We are able to raise armies and to make weapons much faster than we can move them, and in the present phase of the war—the year 1942—the whole effort of our enemies is, so far as we are concerned, directed against our internal and our external system of transportation.

Carrier Boy Shot In Shoulder While Hunting Rat Here

Jesse C. Rogers, 17, of the Summer Hill section is in a critical condition at James Walker Memorial hospital following a "rat-hunt" during which he was accidentally shot through the right shoulder by his small brother, about 7:15 o'clock Thursday morning.

According to Rogers' mother, a younger brother took a .22 caliber rifle out to a barn near the house to conduct a "rat-hunt." Jesse followed him, and a few minutes later the rifle accidentally discharged, the bullet striking Jesse in the shoulder.

Hospital attaches revealed that the bullet had "nicked" the jugular vein, causing a slow, steady flow of blood from young Rogers.

The young man was a Star-News carrier boy.

WARPLANE OUTPUT BELOW TOP SPEED

Senate Committee Blames Poor Planning On Conditions Reported

WASHINGTON, April 2.—The Senate Defense Investigating committee, blaming the situation on poor planning, reported today that warplane assembly lines in some of the bigger factories were operating below top speed because vital parts were not ready on time.

In a formal report to the senate, the committee said a subcommittee which recently visited the West coast had found that the fault lay largely in the government's failure to bring about expansion of the facilities of upwards of 4,000 subcontractors who supply parts.

A poor job of over-all planning from aluminum ingots to finished aircraft, by the armed services and the old OPM (Office of Production Management) must be blamed for the situation, the committee said.

Commenting that it had been informed the war production board "still does not have a single top noted aircraft production man in its sector," the committee recommended that the production agency formed the War Production Board draft one immediately.

Furthermore, it urged that "instead of wasting its energies on a generalized plea for 'all out production' which has confused management, labor and the public, the WPB concentrate its efforts on breaking those bottlenecks which are, in the aircraft industry to the committee's certain knowledge and probably in other fields, really holding up peak production."

Employees in most West coast plants, the committee reported, were working 48 hours a week and only one employer advocated modification of the 40-hour week law under which workers receive time and a half pay for all work in excess of that period.

Discussing the production of aluminum and magnesium, the committee recommended that the defense plants corporation reject a proposal by the Basic Magnesium, Inc., at Las Vegas, N. M., that the government pay \$1 a ton royalty, plus the costs of quarrying, for ores from the company's deposits. It said nearby quarries were being leased for 25 cents a ton royalty.

"This proposed lease appears to the subcommittee as one of the most flagrant attempts at war profiteering to come to its notice," the report said.

Plan Offered To Conscript Labor Forces

Hillman Proposes 14-Point Plan To Mobilize Men, Women For Work

TRANSFERS PERMITTED Director Says 8,000,000 More War Workers Will Be Needed This Year

WASHINGTON, Apr. 2.—A 14-point plan to mobilize men and women for work in war industries, including government power to transfer workers from one factory to another, was laid before the Senate Labor Committee today by Sidney Hillman, labor director of the War Production Board who said 8,000,000 more war workers would be needed this year.

Consolidation of all federal defense training agencies under a unified command also was part of the program, and some members of the committee promptly told Hillman that he should be the generalissimo in charge of recruiting, training and placing defense workers.

"You asked for it," said Senator McKellar (D-Tenn). Hillman, on leave from the presidency of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers (CIO), made the plan public after he was questioned about it during a hearing on McKellar's bill to abolish the National Youth Administration and the Civilian Conservation Corps, a proposal which Hillman opposed. It was not made clear whether Hillman was the author of the program, or what other officials may have endorsed it. It is understood, however, that a proposal of this nature has been submitted to President Roosevelt.

The NYA, Hillman contended, was serving a useful purpose by training defense workers. He is a member of the NYA's advisory committee.

The manpower training program cannot afford the delay which will result if we slow down or stop one of our training agencies and transfer the important load it carries to another organization," he said.

President Roosevelt already has gone on record in opposition to McKellar's bill and today, in observance of the CCC's ninth anniversary, he declared "there is a real place for the CCC during this emergency and it will be called upon more and more to perform its duties."

U. S. PLACES BAN ON BICYCLE SALES

No More Will Be Sold Pending Establishment Of Rationing System

WASHINGTON, April 2.—A public stampede to buy bicycles against the day when auto-tires wear out prompted the War Production Board tonight to ban the sale, shipment, delivery or transfer of new adult bikes pending the establishment of a rationing system.

The "freezing" order was made effective at 11:59 p. m. Eastern War, tonight, and the rationing system will be designed to put bicycles in the possession of defense workers first of all.

This was only one of several orders today affecting the consumer. In others, the WPB ruled out certain tin-plated bottle caps and fluorescent lighting fixtures for non-essential uses and gave notice that civilian use of copper would soon be further curtailed.

The order forbidding future production of fluorescent lighting fixtures except under top-rated priority orders allowed manufacturers 20 days in which to fill other orders on which work already has started.

SOVIETS KILL 22,000 NAZIS ON LENINGRAD AND KALININ FRONTS

Stop At Through Streets (An Editorial)

Through streets were designated to overcome some jamming of traffic at peak hours. Because the heaviest traffic flows east and west, the streets chosen for relief were Chestnut, Princess, Dock and Orange. Throughout their length from Third to Seventeenth, except where traffic lights are installed, stop signs have been placed at the curb in plain sight of drivers.

The fact that through streets were set up was fully exploited in the press and by radio. The driving public was cautioned to note the change in rules and urged to stop voluntarily at intersections so designated.

Yet, despite this wide publicity, it is a regrettable fact many drivers of motor cars and trucks continue to speed across through streets, in many cases even without slowing down.

All drivers guilty of this offense are not only creating an unnecessary accident hazard for vehicles with right of way but seriously jeopardizing their own safety.

Yesterday afternoon at about 2 o'clock, a woman driver sped across Princess at 17th in complete disregard of the stop sign and in violation of the law, to the great danger of a car moving west on Princess. An accident was narrowly escaped, thanks to good brakes.

A few minutes later another car crossing Princess at 10th without stopping was within an ace of colliding with the same car that had skirted the hazard of 17th street.

At 5th and Orange a service truck was seen to cross Orange at fully 50 miles an hour.

These are but a few examples of what is going on. Perhaps the new rule has been in effect so short a time that drivers generally have not had time to assimilate it. If this is the case, it is not to be condoned. Unless there is immediate improvement, the city authorities would be justified—are, in fact, to be encouraged—to assign officers in prowling cars to patrol the through streets constantly and place all offenders under arrest.

This was done on Water street when the law prohibiting parking and two-way traffic there was not quickly obeyed, with excellent results. Equal good could be expected on Chestnut, Princess, Dock and Orange if the same remedy was applied.

14 Nazi Planes Shot Down In Malta Attack

British Say 13 Others Possibly Destroyed In Terrific Assault

VALLETTA, Malta, April 2.—(AP)—The Germans in a persistent dawn-to-dawn attack begun yesterday morning lost a total of 27 planes destroyed, probably destroyed or damaged, the heaviest losses ever suffered in a 24-hour period over Malta, the British announced in their communiqué tonight.

DALADIER MAY ASK 5TH COLUMN PROBE

Former French Premier Rises In His Defense As Trial Is Recessed

By MEL MOST RIOM, Unoccupied France, April 2.—(AP)—Former Premier Edouard Daladier himself on trial with four other one-time political and military leaders of France, declared today he might ask for an investigation of "a Fifth Column of fake intellectuals who created a deleterious atmosphere in the country."

Thus Daladier, the most outspoken of the defendants, got in the last word of the 26th sitting of the special tribunal named by Chief of State Marshal Petain to determine the guilt for France's defeat in 1940.

Following Daladier's statement, presiding Judge Pierre Casau adjourned the court until 1:30 p. m. April 14, to allow for the Easter holidays, as he announced.

The Germans, after their terrific losses, returned only for scattered raids today, and all were slight.

In defending Malta the British sent up the heaviest anti-aircraft barrage yet heard by the hardy Maltese who daily through nearly 2,000 raids already have witnessed some of the bitterest air fighting and heaviest bombing of the war.

Throughout the attacks there were no RAF losses, the communiqué said.

Reds Carry Out Violent Prelude To Hitler's Threatened Drive

ARMS ALSO DESTROYED Series Of Successes Announced By Reds After Days Of Silence

(By The Associated Press) MOSCOW, Friday, April 3. The Russians announced officially today that more than 22,000 Germans had been killed in the Leningrad and Kalinin sectors in a violent Red prelude to Adolf Hitler's threatening spring attempt to smash the Soviet Union.

Twelve thousand Nazis were slain in the Leningrad area between March 23 and March 31, a special communiqué said. A regular communiqué issued at noon yesterday said that 3,000 Germans had been killed in the last two days, indicating the growing ferocity of the battles around the approaches to that important Baltic city.

On the Kalinin or northwestern front between Lake Ilmen and Rzhev, the Russians said, 10,000 more Nazi dead were counted between March 21 and April 1. It is in this area, at Staraya Russa, that the Russians have been steadily cutting down the encircled 16th Nazi army despite vast numbers of German reserves thrown against the Red cordon.

After days of official silence, the Russians issued a series of communiqués listing an enormous haul of German booty captured or destroyed.

Among the items reported destroyed on both fronts were 58 Nazi airplanes, 642 ammunition and supply trucks, 168 trench mortars, 39 tanks, 150 guns and machine guns, 713 ammunition dumps, one food warehouse, and a great number of blockhouses and reinforced Nazi dugouts.

Heavy haul The Russians listed this haul in captured material: seventeen tanks and armored cars, 515 machine guns, 36 trench mortars; 62 guns; 1,347,300 rounds of ammunition; 9,000 shells and 153 cases of shells; 165 trucks; 17 motorcycles; 5,300 hand grenades and 54 cases of grenades; 11,300 horses; 3,000 flares; 300 pairs of skis, eight oil

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RAF IS BACK OVER PARIS FACTORIES

Blast At Matford Works And Pre-War Ford Factory At Poissy

By The Associated Press LONDON, Friday, April 3.—The Royal Air Force's heavy bombers struck for the second straight night at the Nazi-directed Matford automotive works outside Paris, while British ground crews struggled against a terrific German air attack along the southeastern English coast.

British fliers had dropped leaflets over Paris warning the French they were coming back again after their destructive raid last month on the Renault tank and automotive plant working to supply the Nazi eastern front armies.

An informed British source indicated today that the second strike at the Matford works was lighter than Wednesday night's attack, but said the British "got in some good liks."

WEATHER

NORTH CAROLINA and SOUTH CAROLINA—Continued mild with slightly higher temperatures Friday.

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