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REDS BREAK NAZI WINTER DEFENSE LINES

Japanese Drive Within 150 Miles Of Singapore

Bases Taken In Invasion Of Indies

British Acknowledge Another Retreat on Road to Singapore, Indicating Loss of Kuala Lumpur; Jap Air Forces Active.

(By The Associated Press) Japan's all out gamble for a quick, sweeping victory before the united nations can take the offensive carried her troops dangerously closer to Singapore today, touched off the entire Philippine front and stirred up a hornet's nest of resistance in the Netherlands East Indies.

Dutch fighters by land and air struck at invasion footholds gained by the Japanese over the week-end and acclaimed that, with allied aid, they showed two Japanese cruisers, a destroyer and two transports with bombs.

The outcome of the land, sea and air battle for vital outposts in the Dutch empire was still in the balance; the fighting was mounting in bloody, destructive fury.

For instance, the Dutch had United States warships and American and Australian planes.

The Dutch surprisingly found it possible also to help in the defense of Singapore. N. E. I. fighters were said to have shot down three Japanese raiders attacking the British base this morning.

In the Philippines, Washington announced a heavy artillery battle flamed along the entire front. Ground activity increased and air attacks were intensified. Indications were that a new Japanese offensive was at hand.

The Japanese had negotiated an important barrier on their way toward Singapore with the capture of Kuala Lumpur.

Loss of Kuala Lumpur, second largest city of British Malaya, was indicated unmistakably by the British when they announced a further retreat on the road to Singapore—withdrawal to new positions before Seremban, 35 miles southeast of Kuala Lumpur. The Japanese followed the imperial forces with heavy assaults.

Tokyo announced officially that her troops on Sunday entered Kuala Lumpur, one of the greatest centers for crude rubber in the world and capital of the federated Malay states, Kuala Lumpur is in Selangor.

With British withdrawal to the Cereban line, the battle for Singapore moved into another state of Malaya, Negri Sembilan, the last one on the northeast before Johore, which takes up the southernmost tip of the Malay peninsula.

Across a narrow strip of water from the Johore shore lies the island of Singapore, bristling with guns, modern fortifications and naval installations—the place which the British long have called their Gibraltar of the East, pivot of united nations strategic hopes in the Far East.

Regardless of the sweep of the Japanese through almost two-thirds of Malaya in little more than a month of war, Singapore will be no easy nut to crack. The most the Japanese can hope for is a costly victory after a terrible siege.

The Japanese supplemented their drive toward Singapore from the northwest with fierce air attacks. The Japanese said that a packed troop train was toppled from the track near Tampin by a bomb hit.

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HENRY MOSS & CO. IS INCORPORATED
Raleigh, Jan. 12.—(AP)—Certificates of incorporation filed in the office of Thad Eure, secretary of state, today included:
Henry Moss & Co., Inc., principal office Henderson, N. C., to engage in general supply and mercantile business. Authorized capital stock \$100,000, subscribed stock, \$300, by Henry Moss, Frank H. Hicks and William W. Ellington, all of Henderson.

Shipworkers to Repair Pearl Harbor



"Remember Pearl Harbor" is the slogan of these shipworkers, who volunteered for transfer to the Hawaiian naval base. The men are shown parading past the reviewing stand at the Brooklyn, N. Y., Navy Yard as they prepared to leave for Pearl Harbor, where they will repair the heavy damage done by Japanese bombers.

Allies Seek Bases In Eire

China Needs U. S. Airmen

Chiang Kai-Shek Has Plenty of Soldiers, But is Short on Officers and Fliers.

By CHARLES P. STEWART (Central Press Columnist)
Washington, Jan. 12.—Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek, China's governmental and military head, also recently named leader for all the ABCD powers, in his own country, in Indo-China and in Thailand, has indicated to Washington that he can get 100,000 more troops, but that he is short of officers and fliers.



Chiang Kai-Shek

It was to have been expected that he would have men in sufficient numbers, with China's population. They can fight, too. What Chiang evidently needs, however, is a little group of strategic specialists, to give direction to his numerically perfectly adequate forces.

It's also quite understandable that aviation specialists will be mighty helpful to him.

And, of course, he wants mechanical and explosive supplies unlimitedly.

Experts who've kept tabs on his generalship says that Chiang's first-rate commander-in-chief, but they agree that he undoubtedly is short of well-trained aides at the job of field operations.

What's known as an "expeditionary force" from abroad, though, would be superfluous.

Maybe it would be interesting to evolve what the name Chungking means. "King" means capital, "Pe" means north, Peking, northern capital, "Nan" means south, Nanking—southern capital, "Chung" means a repetition or another. Thus Chungking—another capital, the one Chiang chose for himself after the Japs had occupied Peking and set up a puppet government in Nanking.

Syllables like "tung" and "si" give geographical hints likewise.

They Do Make Sense
Illustratively, a couple of Chinese provinces are called Shantung and Shansi. If you know a bit of Chinese these designations make sense. Between Shantung and Shansi there's a mountain range. Now, a mountain range is a "shang." "Tung" means east, "Si" means west. Shantung—east of

U. S. Fleet Not Idle, Knox Says

Washington, Jan. 12.—(AP)—Secretary of the Navy Knox said today that while the American fleet was not idle no early conclusive snowdown could be expected with the Japanese fleet and that the battle of the Atlantic was still the war's most important struggle.

The Navy's No. 1 job, he said in a speech prepared for the annual United States Conference of Seafarers, is keeping the sea lanes open between America and Britain and to bring about the defeat of Hitler's Germany—"our great enemy." The greatest threat to Hitler's plan of conquest, Knox said, was the United States' productive capacity. To counter it, he said, Britain and Russia, Hitler made Japan his "essential ally" just as he did Italy, he added.

Axis African Armies Run Short Of Fuel

Cairo, Jan. 12.—(AP)—With the axis African fourth corps reported running short of fuel, the British Middle East command declared today it was maintaining its pressure on the retreating Germans and Italians in the El Agheila area despite bad weather.

The British said their planes "in particular carried out most effective attacks on enemy supply columns and motor transports."

In the Halfaya-Sidi Barrani area on the Egyptian-Libyan frontier, where an isolated axis garrison is defying British attacks, the British said their troops captured about 100 German and Italian prisoners yesterday.

The north African army of General Rommel was reported falling back slowly from Agadabia, with British mobile forces slashing at its stubbornly resisting rear guard, it was reported.

State College May Advance Graduation

Raleigh, Jan. 12.—(AP)—N. C. State College may advance its graduation date by 25 days so that its technically trained seniors can enter industry as soon as possible to help make war materials.

The proposals, which would affect only seniors, might mean that approximately 125 students who are taking ROTC would get their commissions earlier. Colonel Thomas W. Brown, commandant of the military unit at the college, will ask his superiors whether the earlier graduation would be acceptable.

The 25 days would be made up by eliminating (for seniors only) spring holidays, unusual trips and final examinations. Graduation exercises had been set for June 7 and 8. Under the present proposal the dates would be about May 13 and 14.

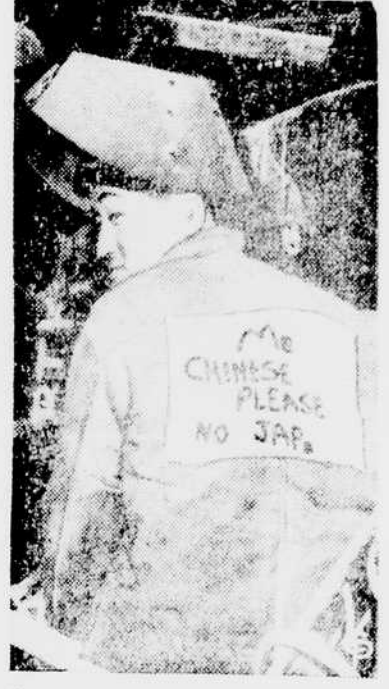
Wickard Fears Food Shortage

Washington, Jan. 12.—(AP)—Declaring the war was placing new, unexpected and as yet unmeasurable demands upon this country for food, Secretary of Agriculture Wickard today cautioned Americans against being excessively concerned about prices and too complacent about supplies.

He voiced this warning in an interview explaining why he had asked Congress to vest in him rather than in a separate price administrator the power to set ceilings on farm prices. The Senate in effect gave him that power in a price control bill passed Saturday despite a request by President Roosevelt for a single administrator. Congressional action on the

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No Jap, Please!



Howard Yip, Chinese welder at a California shipyard, wants to be sure to one mistakes him for an enemy Jap, as he helps build America's Victory Fleet. He wears this sign on his back reading "No Chinese please, no Jap" as he helps along the accelerated program of the maritime commission.

Japs Suffer New Defeat

Chungking, Jan. 12.—(AP)—A new-found offensive power of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek's forces has wrested successes from drives against the Japanese on four widely separated fronts, a communique announced today.

On one front, the announcement said, two villages have been captured in a new offensive which apparently endangered the entire position of the Japanese forces along the Lunghai railway south of the Yellow River.

Chinese reports continued to be optimistic, saying that they had shot down a Japanese plane in Hunan province, and that communications and the approach to the Heping northward from the Yellow River were being held by Chinese forces.

The Japanese, it was reported, had set up a new base in Hunan province, but Chinese forces were reported to have captured it.

Approximately 200 miles north of this battlefield, the Chinese reported the storming of more than five villages, four and four villages about Hanyang, in a northward thrust which evicted deadly and ferocious positions of embattled Japanese who are trying to take the junction of the Lunghai and Peking-Hankow railways at Chenobow, just south of the Yellow river in Hunan province.

The Chinese captured approximately 1,000 prisoners and much equipment during the battle.

The battle, which was said to have started last Friday and raged for a day and night, resulted in reported Japanese casualties of 20,000.

This would mean the greatest defeat the Japanese have suffered since the beginning of the war in China—a defeat not even exceeded by heavy setbacks in their two previous attempts to capture Chungking.

Charlotte, Jan. 12.—(AP)—Not only will milady lack sheer hosiery next summer, but she must also be content with a choice between four shades instead of the usual 12 to 14. The bleak outlook was seen today by Taylor R. Durham, of Charlotte, secretary of the Southern Hosiery Manufacturers' Association, in analyzing the effect of federal regulatory orders.

Strategic Lyudincovo Is Captured

Russians Report Rupture in German Lines Between Vyazma and Bryansk, With Heavy Losses to German Forces.

Moscow, Jan. 12.—(AP)—On-rushing Russian soldiers have broken the new German winter defense line between Vyazma and Bryansk, on the central front, capturing the steel producing center of Lyudincovo, it was reported today.

The midnight Russian communique announced the re-occupation of Lyudincovo, 10 miles north of Vyazma, and the capture of an important rail junction a few miles north of Lyudincovo, which is almost halfway between Moscow and Bryansk.

A mid-day communique, reported continued successes, chief of which was "annihilation of 2,700 German officers and men" and destruction of five anti-aircraft batteries and three trench mortar batteries during a two-day battle on the southwestern front.

This communique added that Soviet troops had occupied "another important place" and annihilated a German infantry battalion on the central front and wiped out 240 officers and men and destroyed six tanks in another unidentified sector.

(Adolf Hitler was said January 1 in Stockholm reports to London to have set up headquarters at Smolensk, 130 miles northwest of Lyudincovo, and 225 miles west of Moscow, after taking personal charge of the German army. He was reported then to have ordered his men to hold the Vyazma-Bryansk line at all costs.)

A CBS quoted a Khabarovsk spokesman as declaring the Russians were within 80 miles of Smolensk and moving forward rapidly. The locality to the advance was not given, but might mean that the Russians had already swept beyond Lyudincovo, or possibly the recently captured city of Moshki, 120 miles east of Smolensk.)

Joe Louis Passes Exam

New York, Jan. 12.—(AP)—Joe Louis passed his final physical examination today for induction into the Army and will take the last step Wednesday at Camp Gordon, Long Island, where he will undergo his final physical at Fort Belvoir.

The 25-year-old champion spent through an hour and a half physical test at Fort Belvoir, along with some other soldiers.

After his test on Wednesday he will be placed in the special division in the Army.

Hollywood Romances

Hollywood, Jan. 12.—(AP)—Romantic items from Hollywood—the box office king, honeymooning at Del Monte, on the moon, while the people girl is honeymooning at Palm Springs, on the desert.

In plainer terms, Mickey Rooney, number one attraction at the box offices, is at Del Monte with the former Ava Gardner of Wilson, N. C., to whom he was married at Ballantyne, near Santa Barbara, last Saturday.

And Ann Sheridan and George Brent, who were married at Palm Beach, Fla., last Monday, arrived at sunny, and Palm Springs, 125 miles southeast of Los Angeles.

The Rooneys are due back this week so that Mickey can get ready to go to Boston, where he will appear in the Red Cross January 22.

The 21-year-old Mickey and his 19-year-old actress wife, who were married by the Rev. Glenn Lutz at the Ballantyne Presbyterian church with only his parents, his sister and two or three friends in attendance.

WEATHER
FOR NORTH CAROLINA
Generally fair and warmer tonight.