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Wavell at Singapore



General Sir Archibald Wavell, Commander in Chief of the Allied forces in the Far East, is shown (left) with Maj. Gen. Keith Simmons during an inspection tour of the defenses of the great Singapore fortress. The Japanese are reported 160 miles from the base. (Central Press)

Wavell In East Indies

Reds 100 Miles From Smolensk

In South, Kharkov Is Stormed

Russians Declare Hitler's Armies Have Lost 200,000 Killed Between November 16 and January 6; Other War News.

(By The Associated Press.) Russian troops were reported advancing within 100 miles of Adolf Hitler's winter headquarters at Smolensk today, while in the south, Red army forces were pictured as storming at the outer gates of Kharkov, Russia's "Pittsburg" in the Ukraine. Soviet military dispatches said collapse of a German wing defending a flank of the Moscow-to-Mozhaisk highway had knocked out the Germans' "last zone of positional warfare" before Moscow and that "the whole front is now in motion."

The Russians declared that Hitler's reeling armies had lost 200,000 killed between November 16 and January 6, with 20,000 slain in recent fighting in the Donets river industrial basin. Soviet troops were described as now battering heavily against German defenses at Mozhaisk itself, 57 miles west of Moscow, where a Nazi garrison of 100,000 men still held out despite the danger of being trapped by Russian panzers closing in from the north and south.

German military quarters acknowledged that the Russians had broken into Mozhaisk lines Sunday, but asserted they were dislodged in a counter attack which cost the Russians 300 dead.

On the north African front, British headquarters noted increasing axis aerial activity, but reported that advances in imperial troops were driving forward in pursuit of General Erwin Rommel's retreating army south of El Aghelia, 90 miles southwest of the old battle sector of Azadabia. Far to the east, on the Egyptian Libyan frontier, British naval, land and air forces were reported intensively bombarding the axis garrison isolated at Bahariya "Hellfire" Pass.

Axis communiqués again stressed aerial assaults upon bases at El Mida, British island stronghold in the central Mediterranean, which has weathered more than 1,000 raids.

Hillman Hints Of Huge Army

Washington, Jan. 14.—(AP)—Sidney Hillman hinted broadly today that five million men is the projected strength of the new United States army now being built.

The associate director general of the office of production management, mentioned the figure indirectly during the discussion of the war production-labor problem which he prepared for the annual meeting for the U. S. Conf. of Mayors.

Hillman reported that five million workers were engaged in war production by the end of 1941. "By the end of 1942," he said, "we must add at least ten million others—probably more—to their ranks, making a total of 15 million."

Price Control Change Likely

Washington, Jan. 14.—(AP)—President Roosevelt's indictment of the Senate price control bill as the direct road to inflation was expected today to force Congress to abandon at least one of its two special concessions to farmers.

Some of the eleven senators and House members who will draft the final form of the wartime measure said privately that they probably would recommend to the two chambers the elimination of a provision linking farm parity prices directly to industrial wages.

Departing from its usual custom of withholding comment on pending

Directors of OGD Meet and Confer in Capital



The three directors of the Office of Civilian Defense are shown as they met and conferred in the capital today in Washington, D. C. Left to right are Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, wife of the President, who is assistant director in charge of women's defense activities; Mrs. Phyllis H. LaGuardia of New York, director, and James M. Landis, dean of Harvard University Law School, who was recently named executive director. —C. P. Photo-photo.

Pan-American Parley Snags

Scrap Steel Famine Seen

Government Officials Say War Program Threatened Because of Shortage.

Washington, Jan. 14.—(AP)—A group of responsible government officials today say the nation's huge war program is threatened in 1942 by a possible shortage of scrap steel to six million tons of scrap steel—the very metal which Japan bought up so avidly here in the pre-war years.

Accordingly, they urged an immediate curbing of the nation's scrap jobs, back yards, and a ban for it on the coast.

In a special memorandum for circulation among administration leaders, these officials asserted that unless scrap collections were stimulated the 1942 production of steel—urgently needed for munitions—would be smaller than 1941's.

The supply of scrap steel—so essential to the industry's last year's production—is being hoarded, it was said to be so low that at New York only one month's supply was on hand.

Collection of scrap both from industry and home owners, was advocated on a scale never before attempted in stock piles of scrap for use not only in 1942 but also next year.

Other recommendations were for increases in pig iron production, increases in the use of scrap steel, and for the industry's supply of scrap to be increased, where required as adequate.

BRITAIN MAY SEND FOOD TO GREECE

London, Jan. 14.—(AP)—The ministry of economic warfare disclosed today that Britain is considering sending food supplies to Germany-occupied Greece.

It said that lifting of the blockade would not set a precedent. The Germans, by starving Greece, are said to be trying out a form of blackmail in an effort to force Britain to supply food to other occupied countries, it was said.

The world's heavyweight champion arrived with one of his managers, John Black, and promoter Mike Jacobs shortly after 11:30 a. m. EST and was taken in tow by Army officers and assigned to a company.

After lunch he was finger printed, sworn in, given an intelligence test and lectures on morality and hygiene and military courtesy.

LaGuardia Must Choose Among Jobs

Washington, Jan. 14.—(AP)—Fiorella H. LaGuardia said today he soon would have to decide whether he would continue as mayor of New York or as civilian defense director.

LaGuardia told a House committee that he wanted to stay on as a defense chairman until Congress finally passed a bill authorizing appropriations for the work and another bill, still in the making, to provide for compensation for civilian defense workers injured at their tasks.

"Then," he said, "I will either have to give up the job of mayor of the city of New York and take the civilian defense job, or I can give up the OGD and go back to New York and mind my own business and criticize what is going on in Washington, or I can do what I did in the last war. I could not do it."

The mayor was in air corps uniform in the last war.

Nelson Takes Over

Entire Defense Setup Will Be Shaken Up To Get Production, New Chief Says.

Washington, Jan. 14.—(AP)—Assistant secretary of the Navy, Donald M. Nelson, said the Army, Navy and OPM today that he was going to shake up the entire defense setup if necessary to back Hitler and the Axis.

"Any organizational changes that have to be made in order to do this job will be made," Nelson declared in a letter to William S. Knudsen, OPM director general, Undersecretary of War Robert P. Patterson, and Undersecretary of the Navy James V. Forrestal.

The letter outlined Nelson's first official act since his selection. He said that he would be in charge of the entire war production and procurement machinery.

Earlier, Senator C. Vann Dewar, Democrat, Texas, and Wiley R. Brantley, Republican, Wisconsin, urged in the Senate that Nelson be given "complete authority" over the nation's machinery of production and supply.

WEATHER FOR NORTH CAROLINA Fair and slightly warmer tonight.

Allied Chief Opens Drive On Invaders

Dutch Troops Move Into Action on Border of Sarawak; American Bombers Destroy At Least Two Japanese Ships.

(By The Associated Press.) General Sir Archibald P. Wavell, commander in chief of the new allied Far East command, has arrived in the Dutch East Indies and already launched a series of dynamic counter blows against Japanese invasion forces, military dispatches said today.

Dutch troops were reported moving into action on the border of the "white rajah" kingdom of Sarawak, where Japanese troops had seized the capital, Kuching, and most of the northern territory.

Dutch East Indies soldiers were also reported battling hand to hand with Japanese invaders near Lake Tondano, on the northeast tip of Celebes island. A Tokyo broadcast said yesterday that Japanese forces had captured Kakas airdrome at Menado, chief port in Minahassa peninsula, Celebes island, across the Celebes sea from Borneo.

Simultaneously, Dutch warplanes bombed Japanese-occupied Tarakan island off the coast of Dutch North Borneo, and a Japanese base in the southern Philippines.

A U. S. Army bulletin said three American bombers, fighting with the Dutch Indies forces, attacked Japanese warships near Tarakan and destroyed at least two enemy ships.

The American planes returned to their undisclosed base undamaged, the bulletin said. Dispatches from Batavia said General Wavell, hero of the first British drive into Libya, North Africa, had arrived somewhere in the Indies archipelago and established his headquarters.

Across the South China sea, British jungle fighters in a new withdrawal were apparently maneuvering to defend an 80-mile front only 90 miles north of Singapore as demoralized engineers blew up tunnels.

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China Press Is Critical

Signs of British and American Reinforcements Lacking, Army Organ Declares.

Chungking, Jan. 14.—(AP)—The Chinese press declared today that signs of British and American reinforcements in the Far East were lacking, that the situation showed no optimism, and turned severe criticism upon the conduct of the war in the Pacific.

"British authorities in Malaya have shown themselves wanting in both vision and determination," was the blunt assertion of the Chinese army organ, Sao Tang Pao.

The term "Pacific war" appeared in publications 23 years ago and was the subject of constant discussion in Japan, yet Americans were caught off guard at Pearl Harbor, and the Philippines are left to look after themselves with a small force," it continued.

"Signs of Anglo-American reinforcements are absent while Britain and American authorities continue to indulge in sidetracking remarks. Both Knox and A. C. Alexander (Britain's first lord of the admiralty) urged the allies to strike Hitler first. If Japan is allowed to take Singapore and the Netherlands East Indies it will be easier said than done for America and Britain to start the counter offensive."

The paper urged Russia to strike before Japan is ready to attack Vladivostok.

British Cabinet Changes Expected

Lord Beaverbrook May Remain in Washington to Coordinate Supply Problems; Sir Stafford Cripps May Leave Russia.

London, Jan. 14.—(AP)—A reshuffle of the British cabinet as a result of criticism over war management and changes in ministerial assignments were described as imminent today in parliamentary circles.

It was stated that announcements might even precede the return to London of Prime Minister Churchill from his conferences in Washington with President Roosevelt.

Some informants said the changes likely would involve appointment of a new minister of supply, not because of dissatisfaction with Lord Beaverbrook, who now holds the post, but because he is expected to be sent to Washington to help coordinate allied supply problems.

Prominently mentioned as likely to succeed Lord Beaverbrook was one of the right hand men—Colonel John L. DeLoach, former parliamentary secretary to the ministry of supply and aircraft production.

There also were reports that Sir Stafford Cripps, ambassador to Russia, soon will resign because he believes he has over-fulfilled the job he was sent to do—establish better relations between Britain and the Soviet Union. Many believe he would like to appear in parliament, as interpreter and expounder of the Russian viewpoint on matters concerning the Soviet.

Wallace Wins Praise

Vice President is Proving Success as Allocator of Supplies, Stewart Says.

By CHARLES P. STEWART Central Press Columnist

Washington, Jan. 14.—Vice President Henry A. Wallace doesn't advertise himself much, but he's increasingly talked about in Washington for the efficiency of his work as an organizer of our wartime productive activities.

Traditionally the vice presidential receptacle is a tomblike cavity within which its occupant is sealed up securely, never to be heard from again, following the ceremony of his induction into it, except, occasionally, in the event of his

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Knox Warns U. S. Against Propaganda

Washington, Jan. 14.—(AP)—Secretary of the Navy Knox said today he believed stories of internal unrest in Germany were spurious and deliberately spread to take the edge off America's war effort.

"Almost every one of the stories about the terrible situation in Germany originates in territory controlled by Germany," Knox told a press conference. "This alone should raise suspicion."

"Assuming that they are doing it deliberately, it is intended to take the time edge off the sense of urgency and immediacy and smugness of purpose which this country is pursuing in its war effort."

Knox said also that German radio broadcasts in Russia should not be regarded as a sign of a German military debacle.

Axis Plans All Upset

Reverses on Russian Front Have Caused Change in Entire Nazi War Strategy.

(By The Associated Press.) Germany's reverses on the Russian front have upset the whole axis apple cart, usually reliable informants reported from Europe today.

They traced to the plight of the Nazi armies on the eastern front the following:

1. The Turkey still bars the Dardanelles to axis warships.

2. That axis reinforcements for north Africa have not traveled through France and Spain.

3. That signs of disintegration have appeared among Germany's satellite allies.

Germany, wanting to get the German fleet through the Dardanelles to attack Russian port of Sevastopol, has intensified pressure on Turkey for free use of the straits, these sources said.

They pointed out that Nazi troops again are concentrating in Bulgaria, that planes are being massed in Greece, and that other preparations are under way similar to those of the Balkan campaign a year ago.

But, they said, there is one difference—the concentrations are smaller because the bulk of the Nazi army is occupied trying to hold the Russian front.

Whether Germany would try military action to win Turkish con-

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