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Japs Land On Singapore Isle

Shipping Agency Is Created

War Labor Board Calls at White House



Labor's combined war board, composed of representatives of both the A. F. of L. and C. I. O., held its first conference with President Roosevelt. Left to right: Sidney Hillman, member of the War Production Board; R. J. Thomas, of the United Automobile Workers; William Green, President A. F. of L.; Mrs. Anna Rosenberg, of War Labor Board; Philip Murray, president C. I. O.; Julius Emspak, of the United Electrical Workers; George Meany, Sect. Treas. A. F. of L.; and Daniel J. Tobin of A. F. of L. (Central Press)

Land Given Great Power In New Role

Maritime Commission Chairman Named by President Roosevelt as Head of Shipping Administration, With All-Out Authority.

Washington, Feb. 9.—(AP)—President Roosevelt today established a war shipping administration with a fully authorized authority over the nation's ocean going vessels and their cargoes, and named Admiral Emory S. Land, chairman of the maritime commission, as head of the new agency.

The executive order authorizing the 32-year-old retired naval officer to issue such "directives" pertaining to shipping operations in the future, said that "this decision is necessary and that it will be final."

At the maritime commission, Land's office said he had no immediate comment but that there might be an announcement later in the day.

In his new capacity, Land's authority over shipping appeared similar to that of Donald M. Nelson over war production. The order pointed out, however, that with respect to overseas transportation of cargoes essential to war production and civilian economy, Land is to be guided by priorities schedules turned over to him by Nelson.

His new administration was given power to control the "operations, purchase, charter, requisition, and use of all ocean vessels under the flag or control of the United States" except fighting ships and those engaged in coastwise, intercoastal and inland transportation.

NOTED WOMAN FLIER CALLED NAZI AGENT

Washington, Feb. 9.—(AP)—Laura Ingalls, noted woman flier, was denounced by a government attorney as a spy and Nazi agent today in a district court today as "an intense German sympathizer" in the pay of the German government.

Miss Ingalls is charged with failing to register with the State department as an agent of the Reich before the United States entered the war. A jury of ten men and two women was selected to try the case.

BRITISH BOMBERS RAID NAZI BASES

Cairo, Feb. 9.—(AP)—British bombers scored hits on munitions factories and submarine bases in a raid on the naval dock yard at Solon, in Greece Saturday night, an RAF communiqué said today. Mendid airbase near Athens also was raided, as well as Benghazi and Tripoli in Libya.

Nurse Faces Murder Charge

New York, Feb. 9.—(AP)—"One of the finest nurses that ever walked the floor" of the Bronx maternity hospital was charged today with the spasm drop slaying of a newborn baby girl whose crying upset her.

That description, augmented by the statement "she was an excellent nurse" was given yesterday by Hospital Superintendent Louise M. Wadner as Irma Weiss, 32, is held in tears, was formally accused of homicide in the death of the infant and also accused of feeding the narcotic to another.

"The babies' constant crying drove me crazy," Miss Weiss was quoted by Assistant District Attorney Martin Krass as saying before being jailed.

WEATHER
FOR NORTH CAROLINA
Continued cold but with slightly higher temperatures in south portions and mountains tonight.

Smiles and Victory Signs



This photograph snapped in an air raid shelter in beleaguered Singapore shows smiles and "V-for-Victory" signs with the fingers. Two "passive defense" men stand by to see that everyone is comfortable and safe in the shelter. The Japs don't seem to worry those people. (Central Press)

African Uprising Charged To Axis

Jap 'Chutists On Singapore

London, Feb. 9.—(AP)—Reuters today quoted the Oslo radio as saying "Japanese parachutists took part in the fighting at several points in the interior of Singapore island." The Oslo radio quoted a T. M. dispatch: "The parachutists bailed out immediately and started fighting against a British detachment," the dispatch said.

The account said the Japanese fleet was ready for an attack near Singapore at any moment.

Would Limit OCD Function

Washington, Feb. 9.—(AP)—A House bill to limit the civilian duties of a classified official is being introduced in Congress today by the House, according to a spokesman today.

HOUSE APPROVES CHINA AID BILL

Washington, Feb. 9.—(AP)—After brief discussion, the House passed and sent to the Senate today a \$500,000,000 appropriation for aid to China.

PRESIDENT'S SON IN NAVY HOSPITAL

New York, Feb. 9.—(AP)—Navy Lieutenant Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., 27, was reported today as recovering today in Brooklyn Navy hospital where he was under treatment for chronic appendicitis.

Approximately 500 Agencies Now Operate In Washington

Washington, Feb. 9.—(AP)—The executive department, agencies, administrative bureaus, units, divisions, councils, boards, corporations, authorities and a cellars of offices now number approximately 500. A list of them, with their addresses and telephone numbers, has just been handed out to the press, according to the scroll have been the first of late for the standard book.

British Base Threatened By Invasion

Commander of Australian Forces Reports Situation 'Well In Hand' After Hours of Bloody Fighting on Island.

(By The Associated Press)
The Japanese fought their way into the fortress island of Singapore today on a ten-mile front, threatening to overrun the most powerful British base, but after several hours of bloody fighting the situation was reported officially to be "well in hand."

In a broadcast during the Japanese onslaught that began this afternoon, Gen. Arthur Percival, commander-in-chief for the island, said that the situation was "well in hand."

That word came from Major General Henry Gordon Bennett, commander of the Australian forces, in whose zone in the mangrove swamps and rubber plantations of the northwestern shore the invaders first struck.

"We have taken our stand on a strong line and are organizing an attack which it is hoped will recover as much as possible of the lost terrain," Bennett said, thus holding out but slim hope that the Japanese could be readily dislodged.

The strong Japanese landing had turned Singapore's ordeal of shellings and bombs in the past week of siege into a man-to-man, weapon-to-weapon struggle.

The Japanese declared that their operations were so well coordinated that tanks already had been ferried across to bolster their shock troops.

While the fate of Singapore thus hung in the balance, Japanese airmen bombed Batavia for the first time and stepped up their attack on the Netherlands East Indies, in what was believed to be preparation for an attempted invasion of Java.

Java, principal island of the N.E. is the site of the United Nations headquarters in the southwest Pacific.

The importance of Java's defense mounted in ratio to the Japanese successes on Singapore. An island appeared over Singapore city on the southern side of the island, but these were met by British fighters which destroyed three planes, probably destroyed three more and damaged 15.

The Japanese estimated the descending forces to amount to 10,000. More trustworthy indications were that at least 60,000 were on Singapore, in groups, the headquarter units of the Japanese troops who had pushed the length of the Malayan mainland to dense forest.

NEW COMMANDER FOR VOLUNTEERS

Raleigh, Feb. 9.—(AP)—Bob Noble of Smith County was named today as commander of the Associated Volunteers group, organized by R. J. Smith of Smith County, Tex., who was killed in an air raid on Feb. 2.

Two Killed In Accidents On Highways

Charlotte, Feb. 9.—(AP)—Two persons, a man and a boy, died in traffic accidents on North Carolina highways over the week-end and a number of others went to hospitals with injuries.

J. C. Bost, 43, of Concord, a state health department employee, stationed at Jacksonville, was killed and seven persons were hurt in an automobile-truck collision near Morehead City.

British Stop Japs' Drive On Rangoon

Salween River Front Believed Stabilized With Reinforcements of Chinese and Indian Troops; Little Fighting Today.

Rangoon, Burma, Feb. 9.—(AP)—Reinforced by fresh Chinese and Indian troops, the British appeared tonight to have stabilized the Salween river front barring the Japanese drive toward Rangoon and China's last important gateway to the sea.

Possibly the Japanese drive had been broken. Army headquarters announced tonight that there had been no change on the Salween river, although enemy planes had been attacking positions on the east bank of the river, 30 miles north of Moulmein. Later in the night there was an exchange of small arms fire—nothing more.

CRIPPS SAYS RUSSIA MAY DICTATE PEACE

Bristol, Eng., Feb. 9.—(AP)—Sir Stafford Cripps, former British ambassador to Moscow, told an audience today that if the United Nations were victorious the Soviet Union would be the strongest European power and "they are likely to end the war sitting in Berlin."

There is a great deal to be admired in communism, Cripps said, but "such is the nature of the politics of the Soviet Union, I think we shall make a much better job of reconstruction in Europe if we have a share in it as well."

Philadelphia Fire Ravages Large Block

Philadelphia, Feb. 9.—(AP)—The city's most destructive fire in 13 years ravaged a large block of business buildings and homes last night and early today, causing damage firemen said would exceed \$1,000,000.

A woman spectator—one of nearly 50,000 who crowded into the thickly populated area—said she saw a teenage boy plunge from a wall collapsed, but police reported no one was missing.

More than 50 firemen and spectators were injured by falling glass and debris. One fireman was believed to have suffered a broken back, another a broken leg.

Fifty families were left homeless and one thousand were driven from their homes temporarily.

Nazis Claim Heavy Toll

Berlin (From German Broadcasts), Feb. 9.—(AP)—The Red army lost several thousand men killed and more than 1,000 prisoners in heavy fighting for 14 days on the Donets basin, the German high command reported today.

The Germans said the Russians were continuing their attack on the Russian front despite their heavy casualties.

"In the fighting on the Donets front, the enemy lost in a period of 14 days in the sector of one infantry division more than 1,000 prisoners, several thousand dead, 17 tanks, 32 guns and 87 machine guns and mine throwers," the communique said.

Newspapers To Cut Size

Atlanta, Feb. 9.—(AP)—A voluntary reduction in the size of newspapers to a "reasonable" shortage of a newspaper was agreed upon by directors of the Southern Newspaper Publishers Association in session here today.

The reduction would be made in the number of pages, through greater condensation of news matter, the directors indicated in informal discussion.

The directors discussed war-borne problems and a streamlined annual convention, agreed to by the nation's war effort. It will be held September 23-26, at a place yet to be designated by the executive committee, and will be devoted strictly to business.

Tax Refunds Made Public

Washington, Feb. 9.—(AP)—The R. J. Reynolds Tobacco company of Winston-Salem, N. C., received the largest tax refund made by the federal government to a North Carolina firm in the fiscal year ending July 1, 1941, the House said today in expenditures disclosed today.

The report showed the Reynolds company received a \$365,500 refund in processing taxes, \$69,944 in income taxes and \$30,224 in tobacco stamp tax refunds.

Other refunds above \$500 to North Carolina firms and individuals included: Selly H. Anderson, Wilson, \$510; Rose Gin and Supply company, Henderson, \$3,437; Leslie W. G. Johnson, \$635; Borden Manufacturing company, Goldsboro, \$1,193.

Washington, Feb. 9.—(AP)—The Senate confirmed today President Roosevelt's appointment of Leon Henderson as price administrator.

Tom Jimison And Dr. Watson In Agreement On Most Points

Daily Dispatch Bureau, In the Sir Walter Hotel, by BOB THOMPSON

Raleigh, Feb. 9.—The only major difference between the charges that Tom Jimison made against the State hospital at Morganton and the recommendations of Dr. James Watson, director of the division of mental hygiene of the State Department of Welfare are:

(1) Jimison says the hospital staff treats the inmates like prisoners rather than patients, while Dr. Watson, who praises the "friendly, homelike atmosphere," blames the institution's many shortcomings on the inadequateness of its appropriation.

(2) Jimison made his charges public through the newspapers while

Dr. Watson and his boss, the commissioner of welfare, Mrs. W. T. Bost, took the far less effective—though, perhaps, more polite—method of making the charges in "confidential" reports to the governor.

But whether you take Jimison's word for it or Dr. Watson's—and there isn't much argument between the two—the real blame lies not in Morganton but rather in Raleigh. The legislature wasn't interested nor was the governor, much. Moreover, Mrs. Bost and her department didn't yell as loud as they could, and some think they should, have done. Their skirts are clear insofar as their public printed recommendations are concerned. But they didn't raise

(Continued on Page Two)

(Continued on Page Four)

(Continued on Page Two)

(Continued on Page Two)

JAPANESE REPORT SUCCESSFUL RAID

Washington, Feb. 9.—(AP)—The Japanese reported today a successful raid on the island of Java, according to a spokesman today.

TWO KILLED IN ACCIDENTS ON HIGHWAYS

Charlotte, Feb. 9.—(AP)—Two persons, a man and a boy, died in traffic accidents on North Carolina highways over the week-end and a number of others went to hospitals with injuries.

J. C. Bost, 43, of Concord, a state health department employee, stationed at Jacksonville, was killed and seven persons were hurt in an automobile-truck collision near Morehead City.

The injured were H. P. Dupree and Irene Oakes, both of Jacksonville, Mrs. Anne Branch of Wilmington, Alton B. Willis and Jasper Golden, both of Beaufort, and two unidentified Marines. None were seriously hurt.

Thirteen-year-old Clarence Fancette was killed and his brother, Jack, Irvin Bowland and Aubrey Sheppard were hurt in an automobile-truck collision near Burlington.

(Continued on Page Four)