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Churchill Renews Dominion Status Promise To India

Sir Stafford Cripps Will Go to India as Emissary to Seek Assurance of Plan Drafted in London.

London, March 11.—(AP)—Prime Minister Churchill repeated today Britain's promise of dominion status for specified India after the war and announced that his ranking aide, Sir Stafford Cripps, would go to India as an emissary to seek assurance that a precise plan already drafted by London would gain general Indian acceptance.

The promise of Indian self government within the British commonwealth of nations after the war, first made in August, 1940, so far has failed to mollify Indian nationalists.

But Churchill, in a long awaited statement to the house of commons, disclosed that the government, in order to "clothe these general declarations with precision and to convince all classes, races and creeds in India of our sincere resolve," had gone a step forward and agreed to a detailed plan.

He did not, however, disclose the exact nature of the concessions by which his government hopes to win the loyalty of India's 350,000,000 people for the defense of their rich subcontinent now threatened by the Japanese advance in Burma and to the Indian ocean.

"We should all serve the common cause if we made a declaration which would be rejected by essential elements in the Indian world and which would provoke fierce communal disputes at the moment when the enemy is at the gates of India," he said.

Sir Stafford's place as leader of the house will be filled during his absence by Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden.

Meets Roosevelt



Lieut. Gen. A. G. L. MacNaughton

Commander of the Canadian Overseas Army, Lieut. Gen. A. G. L. MacNaughton leaves the White House after a lengthy conference with the President. He would not discuss the nature of the talks.

(Central Press)

State Gets Army Office

Headquarters for Air Force Technical Training Command to Southern Pines.

Tulsa, Okla., March 11.—(AP)—Major General Walter R. Weaver, new commander of the air corps technical training command, said last night headquarters would be transferred from Tulsa to Southern Pines, N. C.

Weaver also reported the name of the organization was being changed to the air force technical training command and that it would be split up to include headquarters at Denver, St. Louis, Tulsa and Raleigh.

The organization supervises all personnel of the U. S. air force, except combatant pilots. It has charge of approximately 300,000 men.

Radio Blackout In California

Los Angeles, March 11.—(AP)—A 57-minute radio blackout in three southern California counties was lifted at 7 a. m. (10 a. m. EDT) today, but the fourth intercept command declined any comment.

It was the first radio blackout since the entire metropolitan area was blacked out and anti-aircraft guns fired for a half-hour February 25 at what Secretary of War Stimson said was a flight of enemy commercial airplanes.

New Draft Rule Effects Only A Few Men

Daily Dispatch Bureau. In the Sir Walter Hotel. By BOB THOMPSON

Raleigh, March 11.—Many men with dependents, who thought the army's recently announced ruling would make it possible for them to serve their country and support their families at the same time, are due for a disappointment.

The announcement was to the effect that the way had been opened for registrants classified as "3-A"—men deferred because of dependents—to seek a commission. If they were successful, they would make enough to send money home. If not, they would be sent home themselves.

All this is true, but the only ones who can take advantage of it are those who can arrange for the support of their families for nine months while they are in training. During that period, their income will be

(Continued on Page Three)

Japanese Invasion Fleet, Massed Off New Guinea, Heavily Attacked; Seven Jap Ships Wrecked Or Sunk

Nazis Call On Allies For Troops

Hitler Reported to Have Demanded 1,000,000 Troops from Italy, 1,000,000 from Hungary, 100,000 from Slovakia.

(By The Associated Press)

Adolf Hitler was reported today to have called upon Italy, Hungary and Slovakia for 2,600,000 fresh troops to bolster the heralded Nazi spring offensive and fill the gaps left by nine months of slaughter in the war with Russia.

Advisers reaching London said Hitler, desperately needing manpower to replace the Nazi losses in dead, wounded and missing, has demanded 1,000,000 troops from Italy, 1,000,000 from Hungary and 100,000 from Slovakia.

Soviet authorities declared on February 22 that Germany had lost 6,000,000 men on the Russian front.

With pre-spring thaws already melting snow on the long battle-line, dispatches indicated that the Russians were smashing with ever-increasing fury to demoralize the Germans and keep them reeling backwards instead of organizing a spring counter drive.

A bulletin from Hitler's field headquarters acknowledged that the Red armies were striking in mass attacks on the southern (Ukraine) front and holding the initiative on the Moscow and Leningrad fronts.

Soviet dispatches reported the capture of an important junction in the Lake Ilmen sector, where trapped survivors of the German 16th army originally estimated at 96,000 soldiers were reported suffering from lack of food, clothing and munitions.

A Red army bulletin also announced the capture of three villages on the central front, where Nazi garrisons of 1,000 were described as virtually surrounded.

American Airmen See Action in Australia



C. P. Phonephoto

This photo of U. S. airmen in Australia is one of the first to come out of the Far Pacific theatre of war. Yankee airmen are shown leaving a giant Flying Fortress at an Australian airfield after a successful raid on the Japanese. They're tired but happy and smiling after having met the enemy and having triumphed, and are ready to meet him again.

Jap Armada Draws Near South Coast

Australian Planes Continuously Attack Enemy Ships Moving Toward Port Moresby to Open Battle For Australia.

(By The Associated Press)

Australian bombers struck smashing blows at Japanese warships today and claimed to have sunk or damaged at least seven, but unofficial reports said the enemy's great invasion-bent convoys continued moving toward their eventual jumping off bases in New Guinea.

It seemed clear that the battle for the approaches to Australia was now raging in full fury.

British dispatches from Canberra said Japanese invasion fleets were reported moving toward Port Moresby, on the south coast of New Guinea, 300 miles from the Australian mainland.

Australian planes were said to be continuously attacking the enemy ships.

A bulletin from royal Australian air force headquarters said waves of Australian bombers inflicted havoc on the Japanese sea-borne forces, attacking a cruiser, setting two ships afire, leaving another "large ship" burning, and scoring several direct hits on a warship.

Other hits were believed to have rained the toll still higher.

In Tokyo, apparently unmasking Japan's next move, a government spokesman warned Australia to yield without a fight or suffer "the same fate that befell Singapore and Java."

On other fronts in the far Pacific: 1. In the diving battle of Java, a Dutch dispatch said the Dutch commander had ordered all Netherlands troops on the island to lay down their arms.

Imperial Tokyo headquarters asserted that the Japanese had captured 93,000 troops, including 2,200 commissioned officers, in the Indies invasion—sailing down yesterday's chain of 93,000 troops in Java alone.

In Melbourne, Lieutenant Governor Hubertus J. van Mook of the Dutch Indies said that about 3,000 Australian troops were probably still fighting in the mountain jungles east and west of Balikpapan, the Japanese

(Continued on Page Six)

Draft Lottery Hour Is Set

Washington, March 11.—(AP)—Selective service officials today set 6 p. m. EDT as the hour for starting March 17 the draft lottery which will determine the order of liability for service of an estimated 9,000,000 men who registered February 16.

Officials said that Secretary of War Stimson had been asked to draw the first capsule in the lottery, the third since enactment of the selective service law but the first since war was declared.

BRITISH RED CROSS APPEALS TO JAPAN

London, March 11.—(AP)—The British Red Cross called an appeal to the Japanese Red Cross through international headquarters at Geneva today, seeking assurances that additional atrocities, such as Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden reported yesterday, will not be committed against prisoners of war at Hong-kong.

Aid Sought For Dealers

Governor Broughton Reveals Steps Taken to Relieve Automobile Dealers.

Raleigh, March 11.—(AP)—Governor Broughton said today he had taken four steps to help automobile dealers, some of whom are in "a desperate plight by reason of government restrictions that have been put into effect."

He outlined these steps as: 1. A request for a modification of a ruling which now prevents dealers from selling used cars which they had equipped with recapped tires.

2. Another request that the federal government make low interest loans to dealers, with such loans being secured by cars which the dealers have on hand and are unable to sell because of restrictions.

3. A suggestion that the federal-state employment service do its utmost to find work for persons formerly employed by automobile dealers.

4. An appeal that landlords whose property is leased by dealers be as lenient as possible about collecting rent.

Brazil Makes Ready

President Vargas Issues Decree of War Powers; Shipping to U. S. Halted.

Rio de Janeiro, March 11.—(AP)—President Vargas issued a decree today giving himself the authority to declare a state of war or a state of emergency throughout the country in case of foreign menace, impairment of internal disturbance, or existence of a plan of conspiracy.

Presumptively announcing the impending of the fourth Brazilian ship off the United States coast in three weeks, the decree cleared the way for imprisonment of axis subjects and seizure of axis property.

Orders for seizure of axis property were expected within 48 hours.

Rio de Janeiro, March 11.—(AP)—The government shipping line, Lloyd Brasileiro, said today that the government had ordered the suspension of all sailings to the United States and the recall to Rio de Janeiro of all Brazilian ships now en route to the United States.

The company said it already had instructed captains of its vessels which now are in Santos preparing to go to the United States to return here to await orders.

These moves followed today the recent sinking of two Brazilian vessels by axis submarines off the east coast of the United States.

Japs Control Great Delta

Mandalay, March 11.—(AP)—The withdrawal of British troops from the southern Burma trap left the Japanese in possession today of the great Irrawaddy delta which bulges 100 miles into the Andaman sea and extends 160 miles from the Gulf of Martaban to the Bay of Bengal.

Its ports, Rangoon and Bassein, now are open to the Japanese navy, and it seemed likely that Japan's next sea move might be directed against the harbor of Akyab, close to the frontier of Bengal province, India.

Japanese submarines as early as January lurked off the Irrawaddy delta in wait for shipments of supplies sent via Rangoon and the Burma road to China.

WEATHER

FOR NORTH CAROLINA. Mild, somewhat higher temperatures extreme west portion tonight, possibly light rain in mountains and north central portion.

President Reports On Lease-Lend Aid

Stimson In Panama

Bahoa, Canal Zone, March 11.—(AP)—Secretary of War Stimson was here today on a personal inspection of this vital area, already a trouble spot, on his first trip outside the United States since the war began.

Stimson, who arrived by plane yesterday with a protective escort of twelve pursuit craft, was believed to be concerned primarily about buttressing the canal's defenses.

Methodist Women Meet

Raleigh, March 11.—(AP)—Mrs. W. C. Chappell, vice president, invited presidential address by the Woman's Society of Christian Service of the North Carolina Methodist Conference, called today for a more informed membership and expressed hope in amendments of the society.

Mrs. Gursey P. Hood of Raleigh, secretary, reported a membership of 20,776, representing a gain in the past year of 2,035. Mrs. S. B. McKinnis of Goldsboro, treasurer, reported the society raised \$105,102.74 last year for all purposes.

Domestic membership pins were awarded Mrs. Chadwick and Mrs. McKinnis.

Rome Reports Ship Sinkings

Rome, (From Italian Broadcasts), March 11.—(AP)—The high command claimed today that 23,500 tons of shipping had been sunk by Italian submarines off the east coast of the United States.

Italian torpedo boats have sunk two submarines and the British have definitely lost six of the undersized craft in the Mediterranean in the last four weeks, the high command also said.

Offensives Against Axis Nations Will Take 'Entire Strength' That We Possess,' President Roosevelt Tells Congress.

Washington, March 11.—(AP)—President Roosevelt informed Congress today in a message analyzing the first year's operation of the lend-lease program that the offensives the United Nations must and will drive into the heart of the axis "would take the entire strength that we possess."

"The war cannot only be won by counter-attacks on the ground and by attack upon them," he asserted in a letter transmitting the lend-lease report. "That takes time but the United Nations need only send still more equipment and transportation. Success will come directly in the form of defeat and losses."

The report, covering operations since the original lend-lease law was signed a year ago, also showed that the total value of aid was \$2,310,422,441.

The aid included not only military items such as tanks, trucks and planes, but also such materials, machinery, food, and a vast amount of production facilities and services.

Delaware, which annually transferred to the United States the quantity of tin ore and the United War Relocation Authority \$1,411,000,000 for articles of value transferred or used by the United States.

The net cost of \$2,700,000,000 war materiel shipped to the United States in 1941, including \$126,000,000 in shipping and repair of ships, \$240,000,000 in postal and telephone facilities in the United States and \$1,000,000 in miscellaneous expenses.

French Fleet Not Seized

London, March 11.—(AP)—A British source disclosed today there was no indication at present that the Germans intend to take over the French fleet.

The source, French Admiral Jean Darlan, was "very proud of the French fleet which he created and I doubt whether he would allow it to fall into the hands of the Germans."

The French battleship Dunkerque was "damaged pretty severely" in the July, 1940, battle of Oran, he said.

Temporary repairs enabled her to be taken to London, he added, but "it is not likely that she will be ready for action for a good many months."

Japs Claim U. S. Vessel

Tokyo Reports Cruiser Marblehead Sent to Bottom in Indian Ocean.

Tokyo, (From Japanese Broadcasts), March 11.—(AP)—Imperial headquarters declared today that a Japanese cruiser squadron operating in the Indian ocean east of Australia had sunk the United States cruiser Marblehead.

The sinking was said to have occurred March 2.

A Japanese destroyer, the announcement added, sent a Dutch minesweeper between Bali and Java on March 9.

On March 7, it said, a Japanese naval unit shelled Christmas island, a British possession in the Indian ocean south of Java, causing heavy damage to military installations.

The 7,050-ton Marblehead was the third United States cruiser claimed by the Japanese as sunk during the battle of Java without any corroboration from other sources.